



Every Little Thing in the World

Nina de Gramont

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A teenager. A pregnancy. A familiar story. NOT

When sixteen-year-old Sydney Biggs's pregnancy test shows the tell tale plus sign, she confides in only her best friend Natalia, and Natalia promptly "borrows" her mother's car so Sydney can confront the baby's father. But after the car is reported stolen and police bring the girls home, their parents send them away to wilderness camp as punishment. With six weeks to spend in the wilds of Canada, time is ticking for Sydney, who isn't sure what she wants to do about the pregnancy. As she befriends her fellow adventuremates and contends with Natalia's adamant opinions on the choices available, Sydney realizes that making the right choice can mean very different things.

Every Little Thing in the World Details

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Author : Nina de Gramont

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From Reader Review Every Little Thing in the World for online ebook

Kat says

Uh oh, poor 16-year-old Sydney got herself knocked up...What is she going to do??? Why, dodge making a decision by going on a summer wilderness expedition, of course! Yes, this is another teen pregnancy dilemma novel with plenty of corniness, but I enjoyed the Canadian summer canoe adventure. There was even a bit of compelling substance and imagery here and there tucked between the various cliches and stereotypes, so as far as chick-lit goes, this ain't so bad. I'm sure there are plenty of young gals out there that would eat this story up during the summer, day-dreaming about paddling down a pristine lake with friends and fretting over hunky dudes, with a nice helping of teen problem novel on the side.

Steph Su says

With freshness and immediacy, Nina de Gramont takes us deep within the complex mind of a pregnant teenager in the absolutely incredible EVERY LITTLE THING IN THE WORLD. But this is more than just a book about teen pregnancy: it's also a lovingly detailed celebration and dissection of all different types of human interactions and relationships.

It's been a while since I've read a YA book that gives such insight into human and teenage nature. Sydney's voice never feels forced, despite the astonishing range of observations she provides us, many of which are things we could only dream of having learned as a teen. The tensions she experiences in her relationships with the important people in her life are perfectly written and balanced.

In this sense, then, EVERY LITTLE THING IN THE WORLD is so much more than a story about teen pregnancy: as Sydney canoes through the Canadian wilderness, she learns about friendship, lust, unrequited crushes, parents, and what really matters to her. This book doesn't try to present a moral; rather, it's an exploration into one teenager's mind. We may not necessarily agree with everything Sydney does, but after reading this book, we come to appreciate the thought processes that go into people making different decisions.

EVERY LITTLE THING IN THE WORLD is so much more than it appears to be upon first glance. Read this for a beautiful and amazing in-depth look into teenage interaction and decision-making.

Anna says

Finally, a young adult book that *doesn't* vilify abortion! Thank you, Nina de Gramont. And, to be honest, this one single factor easily could've been the thing that made me love this book. But thankfully the book had a *lot* going for it. Nina de Gramont is quite a good storyteller and even though there were plenty of moments where I felt very frustrated with Sydney, the narrator, in the end I did think that she epitomized a what life can be like for somewhat sheltered, middle class teenage girls. And I like what de Gramont did with this character. I liked how Sydney grew a lot from beginning to end of the book but none of it was cheesy or rushed. It all seemed to happen very organically and she became a stronger person.

The writing was great. The descriptions of the Canadian summer made me wish I was there now. She made the canoe trip sound so cool and refreshing. I liked the two characters, Sydney and Natalia, because they were similar but they also acted as character foils and, in the end, I liked that they accepted each other's friendship even though they were both changed people.

I really liked a lot of this. I loved the overall big themes and without revealing too much I just want to say that this is definitely worth checking out. And, thank you, Nina de Gramont, for writing a YA book with an "abortion-is-okay-too" message. We need more of those.

Barbara says

I didn't know it when I started it but this book was 'Young Adult'. Once I finished it I couldn't believe it was for 14 years and up. I know I am an old woman and a prude but really - 14 year old girls need to read about sex, pregnancy, sex, sex, drugs, abortions and more sex? And did it all have to be made to look attractive and inviting? Whatever happened to Anne of Green Gables and Little House on the Prairie? OK - so now you all know I am an old woman and a prude!

Briony says

I would like to first say that Nina De Gramont can receive my humble apology whenever she would like.

When I first saw the cover and heard the jacket blip of this book, I instantly made fun of it. All I could think of was, "ANOTHER pregnancy story AND she is going to wilderness camp, OH COME ON!" I think I can literally count on all my fingers and toes how many times I picked up this book and laughed, however Gramont got the better of me. After reading some of the reviews of *Every Little Thing In the World*, I decided that I would give it the benefit of the doubt. Talk about getting slapped aside the head. I could not put this book down! Gramont's writing instantly captured my attention and I was pulled into Sydney's story.

Although Sydney's pregnancy was the focal point of the story, it wasn't the ENTIRE story. It was very authentic of how Gramont intertwined Sydney's sixteen-year-old thoughts around her life and her pregnancy. I also liked how Gramont had Sydney bouncing back and forth between decisions, especially after learning about a big family secret that her best friend, Natalia, discovered about herself.

Besides creating an authentic main character, Gramont also did a phenomenal job on supporting characters and their relationship with Sydney. I absolutely loved how Sydney and Natalia's relationship slowly grew apart only to come back together again. I also believed each character was developed to their potential. Tommy, the father of the baby, only makes an appearance once, but I think his character development was perfect for someone who only has a brief relationship with Sydney.

After much ridiculing and scoffing at this book, I can say that I have been firmly put in my place about joking about a book before I have read it.

Lauren says

I know this may sound strange, but I love reading books that contain teen pregnancy. Some people say this topic is overdone and partially clichéd, but in my opinion each story presented the author takes the topic and turns it into a story that's all its own. Further more, this is exactly what happens with Every Little Thing In The World.

Every Little Thing in the World is an emotional, enlightening, and fast paced tale of one girl's choice between what's right and wrong when it comes to her pregnancy and her.

Sydney was a character that was easy to like from the beginning because while she had a big problem that none of you teens out there will hopefully have to face during your high school years, she also had others that were easy to relate to. Also, you could feel her frustration on which choice to make- have it or abort it?- and the different opinions that came from her friends on the situation, leaving you to constantly cheer for to come out doing what she wanted to do in the end. And while I do feel that she could have handled some of the situations differently, I still admire her for doing what was right for her in the end, not leaving others to influence her decision. Natalia, Syd's best friend, was a character that just surprised me (usually not in a good way) throughout and while I'm dying to say more on this, I don't want to give too much about the story away. I did like the secondary characters, though, because I enjoyed how Nina had them each come from a different and diverse background that made them stand out in their own unique way.

As said briefly above, the plot was just plain addicting, leaving me to finish this book in less then two days which is pretty good considering the loads of homework that usually dictate most of my time. I enjoyed how most of the story took place in Canada's wilderness and how I always felt like I was right there with the characters because of Nina's great descriptions that were never too little or too overdone. With saying that, Nina's writing was also pretty great and I'm excited to see what other stories she brings to us over the next few years.

In all, Every Little Thing in the World is a definite must read even with the few flaws it does have!

Grade: A+

Emily Benoit says

SPOILERS

MIXED REVIEWS ON THIS ONE...

This overall, was a good book. But in a way, I couldn't stand it. Sydney, in the beginning, drove me INSANE.

I'm not someone who believes in abortion, although I used to think it wasn't a big deal. Quite frankly, I didn't care. But not now. Now there's just something about when I think of it, it feels totally and completely wrong. Dont have sex, if your not ready for a baby.

Sydney seemed so self-centered, and I wanted to throw the book at the wall half the time. It was all about her. She couldn't have the baby, because she didn't want to have to worry and deal with the oncoming

struggling of it. Really, there was no real reason as to why she SHOULD'N'T of at least had the baby, and then given him/her up for adoption. She wasn't living in a bad home, she wasn't poor, she had nothing obvious like so. She seemed so cruel, and cynical about the whole pregnancy aspect, and at times, she found herself thinking "If I did....(fill in the blank of various times when Sydney thought of different ways to kill her baby while pregnant for split seconds of time)the problem would be gone...."

Another thing that hugely annoyed me, was the fact that she didn't tell anyone but her best friend Natalia. Like, seriously? How irresponsible. Oh no, well, technically she already was in the first place. She didn't end up telling her mom that she was pregnant had wanted the abortion until the moment she was in the hospital during a rescue of the camp.

Not only all this, Sydney was back and forth as to whether she should keep the baby, and while doing so, she barely ate. Since she was at a wilderness camp, although her portions were already pretty scarce, she wouldn't even eat (around the end of the book), and was totally doing things that would harm the baby.

But here's the thing.

By the end, I actually started to have a little respect for Sydney.

Once she had had the abortion, although I still believed it to be wrong, she seemed to really, really truly mature by that point. She seemed more aware of herself, the world around her, and the decisions she had to make, and as to why. By the end of the book, I started to like her. She found out a lot about herself as well.

So guys, definitely worth the read either way.

I just WAS NOT a fan of the whole "ABORTION IS OKAY" aspect.

I understand that it is a women's choice, and a women's choice alone, but it's just something I wouldn't myself choose to do.

This book is a good mix-up, and it IS nice to see a different view on the outlook on pregnancy, such as this, being abortion.

oliviasbooks says

I ordered this to fulfill the Young Adult Book Club's 17th quarterly challenge, although teen pregnancy books are seldom my thing. But I had a pretty good feeling about this story. I shouldn't have had it - that gut feeling. The main character, her best friend, all the boys AND her parents are completely unlikable in my opinion. 83 pages and some skimming through the rest provided no joy or satisfaction at all. That said I need to stress that my rating does not have *anything* to do with the outcome of/decision about the unwanted pregnancy dilemma.

-k The Lady Critic says

Ok, I loved this book and I'm not just saying that because it was sent to me. No, it was just so completely raw and real; I can completely see this happening in real life. But at the same time I hated it with a passion because of some of the things that happen. Really, this book pissed me off to no end.

First, I'm completely pro-choice – it's your body, do with it as you will – and I would never even think of counselling someone on this since I've never experienced it, which is why Natalia annoyed me so much, but I am completely against getting drunk while knowingly pregnant. Still, that's where part of the realness comes into play as well, I suppose.

Second was the idiocy that Natalia portrayed at times. I mean, come on, wanting to take care of your best friend's baby and raise it with your boyfriend who your parents hate? At 16? What the hell? It's idiocy like that that ran rampant through my high school; luckily no one acted on it... I don't think. Then there was her trying to influence Sidney on the big decision. I wanted her to just but out and stay out. However, without her character the book would have been vastly different, I will admit that. She had a strong hand in how amazing the entire story turned out to be.

de Gramont's writing is absolutely amazing in the way that she depicts this entire story, she takes the "oh no, girl gets knocked up and doesn't know what to do" to an entirely new and amazing level that had me reading this book in one sitting while waiting for Big Brother to load on YouTube. It's her fantastic way of writing the insight into Sidney's character that was able to bring about such strong responses from me as I was reading. This is something that I think shows the skill of a truly phenomenal writer.

I was pulled into the realness of how Sidney was coping with her pregnancy and how there was a certain flavour of denial thrown in along with complete disregard for the entity that was growing inside of her. I was pulled into Sidney's head and how her thought patterns sometimes turned slightly morbid, but at the same time I could picture this happening and it just felt so true and real.

If you're easily offended or are pro-life, this book probably isn't for you. From this Goodreads page, the more negative reviews have come from fairly devout Christians, so if you're loving the JC, you might want to pass this one by. However, if you're able to see a situation from different viewpoints, then go for it. This is honestly one of the most fantastic books that I've read in a while from the writing right down to the storyline. I'm giving it a 9/10. It would be higher, but I just can't get the image of Sidney drinking out of my head.

Rebecca McNutt says

I liked this book, it has many different characters and themes, but it wasn't a very original story and some of the characters were really immature and annoying.

Heidi says

terrible. this book took me weeks to slog through. i kept waiting for something, ANYTHING, redeeming to happen to any of these selfish, naive, ridiculous, irresponsible characters. there was no "lightbulb" moment for any of them. nothing learned. the ongoing battle of whether sydney should or should not get an abortion was preposterous. she lists all the stupid things that she had done as a 16 year old that she knew better than to do but failed to acknowledge that because she is a child, making adult decisions. one thing is for sure, sex "education" informs children of what their bodies are capable of, but it certainly doesn't prepare them to act and think when they are making adult decisions, like having sex. clearly, the theme of this book is that they were all children trying to figure out who each one of them was, but they paraded under the guise of adults

with no supervision making ridiculously bad decisions with very little discussion of consequences. the parallel of sydney's impending abortion and mick's secret of murder of someone as both self-defense is a load of crap. somehow at the end, post-abortion, sydney is supposed to feel refreshed and renewed and whole again. whatever your reproductive rights opinion may be, rewarding poor decisions and celebrating terrible behavior as courageous is disgusting. this book got thrown across the room.

Morgan F says

Originally, I wasn't too interested in this book. From the plot description, it looked pretty cliched.

This book is about 16 year old Sydney Biggs. After getting into some trouble, Sydney's parents send her off on a six-week canoeing trip for the summer in the Canadian wilderness. Sydney's best friend, the rich and beautiful Natalia, is also going, but Sydney isn't all too happy about that, because with Natalia there, Sydney must constantly face an awful truth: she is pregnant. Over the course of the summer, Sydney must decide what to do about the baby, whether it means losing her best friend or her future.

Surprisingly, I adored this book. The first few chapters were meh, but once Sydney got to camp, I couldn't put the book down. I absolutely loved the complex and lively cast of characters, and the setting was a nice change. It was decently written and pretty realistic. I think de Gramont perfectly captured the troubles of a pregnant teen and brought up some interesting points. I didn't find it predictable and Sydney's decision surprised me.

I really enjoyed this book. I'll be looking forward to reading more from this author in the future. If I could, I would give it 4.5 stars.

Sayantani Dasgupta says

I thoroughly enjoyed and was engaged in the story of 16-year old Sydney, and her life negotiating her friendship with her best friend Natalia, her well-meaning dad, her tired mom, her relationships with the boys in her life including the one who got her pregnant, and what she did when she found out about the pregnancy. The voice and point of view were authentic to a 16 year old's.

Laura says

Sydney, 16, gets pregnant and is sent away for the summer on a canoeing trip. The whole book is about Syd trying to decide what to do with her baby.

I had hope for this book. I thought Syd would do the right thing. I am deeply disturbed by this book. I feel shaken and fragile.

After she has an abortion the author writes; "We were like babies, safe somehow in the forest. We were the newest creatures on Earth, with nothing to do but move forward into the world, starting fresh."(p.272)I can't get this passage out of my head; it makes me want to throw up. Here are these teenagers playing like adults and yet she still sees herself as a baby. What about the baby inside of her that could have turned into a girl

just like her. The baby is newer than her, who has no power over its self; it should have a chance to start a new. Whatever happened to taking responsibility for your actions?

God has given us a conscious to know when something we are doing is wrong. If so many women have to deal with a pregnancy and the option to abort it, why do it anyway? When it feels so wrong? The bible says that we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Found in Psalms). God talks about knowing us before we were even in our mothers' womb. I don't see how aborting a baby could ever be justifiable.

I'm going to go throw up now.

Stephanie A. says

Every single character in this book was unlikable except the dog and maybe the stepmother. I may have physically punched it after reading the ending.
