



The Girl from Everywhere

Heidi Heilig

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The Girl from Everywhere, the first of two books, blends fantasy, history, and a modern sensibility. Its sparkling wit, breathless adventure, multicultural cast, and enchanting romance will dazzle readers of Sabaa Tahir and Leigh Bardugo.

As the daughter of a time traveler, Nix has spent sixteen years sweeping across the globe and through the centuries aboard her father's ship. Modern-day New York City, nineteenth-century Hawaii, other lands seen only in myth and legend—Nix has been to them all.

But when her father gambles with her very existence, it all may be about to end. Rae Carson meets *Outlander* in this epic debut fantasy.

If there is a map, Nix's father can sail his ship, *The Temptation*, to any place and any time. But now that he's uncovered the one map he's always sought—1868 Honolulu, the year before Nix's mother died in childbirth—Nix's life, her entire existence, is at stake. No one knows what will happen if her father changes the past. It could erase Nix's future, her dreams, her adventures . . . her connection with the charming Persian thief, Kash, who's been part of their crew for two years.

The Girl from Everywhere Details

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From Reader Review *The Girl from Everywhere* for online ebook

Aly's Bookish Wonderland says

Why did the stories I knew best never end well? But why too did I feel at home among them? I could never give up the myths, the maps, the ship that had shaped me. Blake's home might be paradise, but mine was the *Temptation*.

The Girl From Everywhere is a heart-wrenching, poetic book about love and loss, and the endless cycle within. Nix is sixteen years old, and has lived her entire life aboard the *Temptation*, a hand-built time-travelling pirate ship, along with her father, Captain Slate, a runaway thief, Kashmir, and two other loyal shipmates. The Captain is obsessed with maps -- all maps. Maps from the past, especially, but specifically one: a map from 1866 Hawaii. If found, Slate will be able to time-travel into the past, to the time before Nix was born, and save the love of his life... thus, putting an end to Nix's existence before it ever came about in the first place.

"Now you understand," he said, his eyes bright. "The pain of losing someone you love." My mouth twisted. "Oh, I've understood for a while, Captain," I said, spitting the words out like broken teeth. "But you always come back when you want something. Maybe one day I'll lose you for good."

Captain Slate and Nix's relationship is complicated and tense, full of things left unsaid and, rather than taking steps forward in trying to fix their problems, they both avoid the thought. Slate is aware that if he goes back in time, Nix will disappear. He will no longer have someone to teach the arts of time travelling with maps and a ship; he will no longer have his loyal, trustworthy, bright sixteen year old daughter. Yet it seems it's a risk he's happy to take, if it means saving Nix's mother from death. Nix is all too preoccupied with the knowledge that Slate's obsession will end her life, and she does her best to steer him away from find this ever-elusive map. A map that seems, strangely, incredibly hard to track down.

"What's the use?" I shouted into the dark, my voice echoing in the cold stars. "Why do we bother if all we do is what was written a thousand years ago? What's the point if we can't try to change things?"
"Oh, Nixie." My father reached out again and I let him; my rage had burned too hot and flamed out quickly. He stroked my cheek with the back of one finger. "I always knew one day you'd understand."

But then someone comes along with an offer Slate can't refuse, and only one question stands: Will Slate really do *absolutely anything* for this map he desires more than anything in the world?

I think, as mentioned before, what really made me love this book, what really made me *feel*, as an outsider looking in, was Nix's and Slate's relationship. It's very love-hate, with Nix adoring her father, but also hating him, and vice versa: there's no doubt that Slate loves his daughter unconditionally, but there is also a huge sense of resentment there. After all, maybe without Nix, Slate would've been able to save her mother. Or maybe he would never have had to leave her in the first place. Who knows? Although twisted and bitter, they consistently have each other's backs, and even though Nix doesn't agree with half of Slate's plans, she is always planning one step ahead to take the load off her Captain's shoulders. In that regard, Nix is a wonderful leader, and she is always willing to learn, even if Slate refuses to teach her.

And, of course, there is romance! Although it's very light and takes the backseat for most of the story (the plot is very fast paced and packed with action, so it would be hard to give way to romance, thankfully) I totally cheered when it *finally* happened. Heidi is very good at not only orchestrating tense atmosphere during badass heists, but she did a wonderful job at drawing out the romance so that it felt like one could easily combust from the need of it.

Also when I mentioned *The Girl From Everywhere* was poetic, I truly meant it. Heidi Heilig has a knack for writing beautiful, flowery prose that brings settings and characters to life.

The masons and artists, the tile setters and painters, the sculptors and plaster workers and carpenters and gardeners who had used the best of their skills for the glory of their emperor had found their way here, to die before the bronze gates cutting them off forever from the country they had re-created in this necropolis.

The Girl From Everywhere is a wonderful story, ready to inspire and break the hearts of its readers. I highly recommend it to all fans of young adult fantasy, and also to those who *aren't* fans. I am sure that Heidi Heilig's debut novel has the power to change your mind.

This review is now live on 100% Rock Magazine!

Thank you, Hot Key Books, for providing me with an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Pre-review: WHY AM I CRYING

Emily May says

If you enjoyed Bracken's *Passenger* and would like to read that book again, then I recommend *The Girl from Everywhere*. Otherwise, it's best to just add this to the ever-growing mental pile of "boring time travel books

w/ romance". And also pirates (strange trending niche?)

The best thing about this book is Kashmir, and that is probably why I tagged on an extra star. He's a funny, charming, intelligent character that brings a much-needed bright spark to this otherwise **slow, plodding, overlong story**.

Not that I have a problem with long books, but you can really feel it here. It's almost five hundred pages and, boy, does it draaggggg. As with *Passenger*, it promises an exciting combination of time travel and pirating (in many ways, it feels like the same book), but it is bogged down by descriptions of ship life and navigation.

It just really lacks a hook. Kashmir is not central enough to carry the story and Nix is so damn boring. Her narrative never pulls you into the story and it's very hard to become invested and care about what's going to happen. Oh, and there's **a love triangle** that comes swinging in out of nowhere.

There's something about this love triangle that feels so forced. Almost as if the author set out with the intention of creating a love triangle just because... they sell good? In this case, the introduction of a love triangle just made me irritated with Nix.

Kashmir is eligible bachelor number one and - I think(?) - the only real choice. Because he's the only one with an actual personality. The other guy is characterized by his physical description and he's so hopelessly dumb and one-dimensional.

Don't get me wrong, though, I don't think a girl should have to be with a guy because he's nice and he loves her. It's totally fine if Nix is not into Kashmir - she doesn't owe him something for being a good guy. But I also have no interest in her making moon eyes at a bland, beautiful cardboard cutout. Or kissing them both because ANGST.

I'd rather go find something else to read.

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Nina (Every Word A Doorway) says

The blurb of *The Girl from Everywhere* whispered sweet promises of adventure, navigation-based magic, and the flair of Victorian Hawaii. Unfortunately, only the latter was delivered properly.

The adventure was as absent as my excitement with the plot boring me to tears. The magic system of time travelling was barely explained, which is a technique I used in math tests, too: To avoid making mistakes, I didn't solve the equation at all, see?

Thank God there was Kashmir to "save the day" (if 2 stars can be considered a save, that is).

Let's clear up a few things before I start my rant: Was this book burdened with the difficult task of impressing me after the epic *And I Darken*? Yes. Am I easily bored in the face of tedious plot build-ups? Also yes. But nonetheless, do I usually give a book, especially a debut, a fair chance in spite of complaints?

Absolutely. I'd read with care until the 50% mark and speed-read and half-skimmed from then on because my patience is not exactly an expendable resource.

The book showed potential, that much was obvious: **The marvellous settings, a crew of diverse outcasts, the inclusion of Hawaiian folklore, a touch of colonialization, and, of course, Kashmir (my little cinnamon roll).** Heilig's enthusiasm for history and her own culture was palpable, as the story itself was inspired by a real-event pirate heist. An eye-catching bonus were the black-and-white maps included before every chapter in a new time. Time travelling with a pirate ship (anyone getting any *Pirates of the Caribbean: At Wit's End* vibes yet?) by using maps of other eras or mythical worlds was a compelling idea, much preferred to good ol' portals, but – as with most other aspects of this book – it was the execution that failed me in the end.

? **The first thing that struck me as mediocre about *The Girl from Everywhere* was the prose.** With debuts, I usually turn a blind eye to faults in the writing, but Heilig's writing style was ponderous, even tedious, especially after *And I Darken*.

? The female lead, Nix, was a cardboard character with whom I could not connect on any level. **Heilig merely scratched at the surface of the half-Chinese heroine's personality and background, which was extremely disappointing.** Characters are like the sails of a ship, in a way, as the story cannot advance without them. The captain was an interesting character as were the members of his crew, a scrawny cook and an African tribal woman (who also happens to be gay). **Kashmir was by far my favourite character with his turbulent past as a street urchin in ancient Persia, his honey-soaked charm and his cocky retorts.**

? To my own horror, Heilig introduced an unnecessary second love interest, which was just as 'cardboardy' as Nix herself, and voilà: **We have a love triangle.**

? With this ship already struggling to stay afloat, the **utterly uneventful plot** – save for a few scenes – blew a few additional holes into the ship and finally sunk it to the bottom of the ocean.

? And last but not least, **the captain's unwillingness to tutor Nix in Navigation (this particular form of time travel) must be the lamest excuse ever for not having to elaborate on a magic system.** I think we can all agree on the fact that explaining the magic system (or simply any system at all) is the ABC to writing a good, convincing fantasy.

At the very least, the book didn't end with a cliffhanger, which leaves me with the option of not having to continue this series without losing a good night's sleep over it. By the looks of it, the sequel will be a love-infested goose chase, so I think I'll pass.

In spite of its potential to be a marvellous read, this magnificent ship ran ashore with a bland female lead, tedious writing, an unnecessary love triangle, and a plot that couldn't keep me hooked for a second.

(Credits to Heidi Heilig for the visual material.)

PREVIEW

I'm opposed to both the heroine's name (I've already encountered a Nyx in *Cruel Beauty*, why must names be recycled when there's such a diversity of names out there?) and to time-travelling, as there's almost always a hole in the logic. You can experiment with magic but you do not mess with time-travelling.

Despite my objections, the premise has really captured my interest, and to that I applaud. I'm sensing some moral dilemmas, captivating sceneries and whatnot. ~~And a gorgeous Persian love interest, yum.~~

Cait • A Page with a View says

3.5 stars. Time traveling pirate ships + a historical Hawaii setting are pretty much always going to be awesome. The plot had a few holes but I still ended up really enjoying the story!!! And I really like Heidi Heilig's writing.

Nix and her fellow pirate-ish folks can travel anywhere in history (but also to fantasy worlds too??) if they have a map. But once they use a map, they can never use that same map to return to the same place again. They were initially after a map so Nix's dad could go save her mom from dying and the story seemed to be about Nix's own existence possibly being negated since that was in the book description... but then that all kind of got put to the side for now as they jumped through a bunch of random hoops to get to the map.

Most of the story was like "whaaaat are you doing now and *why*." Basically, they get wrapped up in the fall of the Hawaiian monarchy, some powerful sketchy guys start plotting with them and a gold heist became the main focus. There were several small mysterious storylines or characters and interesting side plots, but it took a bit for it to all feel like it was part of the SAME story.

I absolutely loved the Hawaiian setting and history, though!! There was a sort of relaxed feeling to the whole book that was nice. The writing was well done, too -- there were SO many good lines! And there's a bit of romance, but it was never the focus (which I liked).

BUT OK WHY DO THEY NOT HAVE MORE MONEY. One of the characters really needs to get on this in the sequel. If they're able to plan ahead, choose where to go next, and can bring objects throughout all of time (and apparently space/reality)... why are they not grabbing something to sell?! Use the TARDIS ship to make some money first.

Plus, the time travel stuff isn't really fully explained (like they technically don't need the ship?) and the added element of being able to go fictional worlds added too many questions for me. And I'm still a bit confused about how the details of crossing your own time stream or going between fictional and real worlds works (like when they're concerned that the map Blake drew might have been his interpretation of Hawaii instead of the real one -- would that make the Blake that exists in the version of Hawaii they returned to the REAL one she met or whaaaat)?? So just roll with it, I guess. None of this gets in the way of enjoying the awesome setting and adventure!

So I did love the overall feeling of the story and was never bored, despite all of my random questions. And at least those questions show I cared enough about the story to be invested? I would recommend this if you can handle fun adventure stories where you just kind of go "ok then" and let characters do their thing!

Hailey (HaileyinBookland) says

I so wanted to love this book, I mean the premise sounds unreal, but I am just so conflicted in my feelings about it. There were things I really liked, but also things I really didn't like. Most of my reading experience was spent trying to figure out what the hell was going on because while the story is descriptive, it doesn't describe what is actually happening, the descriptions just set the scene. I guess my feelings can be summed up fairly easily by saying that I just wanted more. More explanations, more action, more character development, more world building, etc. I'll definitely be doing a video review soon because I do have quite a bit to say about this one.

C.G. Drews says

REREAD: July 2017

Duuuuude. Everything about this book reminds me of ALL the things I love reading about: pirates, ships, treasure, dashing thieves, epic navigator women, really delicious pastries, tiny pocket-sized dragons, SO MANY MAPS, ghosts, and plenty of sass. **It's basically a CHECKLIST OF AWESOME and I'm so pleased.** Reread was 100% worth it. Although I'm still vaguely confused at who was pitted against who in the Honolulu thievery thingie at the end. I thought the reread would improve it?? But yet no. I have no brain, just seaweed and good intentions.

ANYWAY. Straight onto the sequel!

And Kash x Nix is like OTP OF DENIAL AND LOVE. <3 <3

*** FIRST READ: JANUARY 2016 ***

Oh this was a delicious specimen of ships and time travel and I THINK I AM IN LOVE. This is my first *ever* time travel book, and it was successful? Like only *mildly*. Because this review isn't going to be me FLAPPING ABOUT WITH HAPPY FLAILS OF COURSE NOT. I am logical. I am calm. Ahem.

"So why did you love this book so much, Cait?" you ask. "And what the even heck is it about?"

Here, let me explain ALL with a handy dandy list.

All The Things You Need Know About This Book:

- **It is about time travel and pirate ships.** But not REALLY pirate ships??? But after reading the author's notes, I think the story is inspired by a pirate heist in the 1800s in Hawaii. (Which is freaking cool.) ANYWAY. The characters are somewhat modern, but the book is mostly set in the 1800s. (Although they do pop into modern New York at the beginning.) It's basically about Captain Slate who is a time-travel-dude, and his daughter Nix, and their search to find the "right map" to take them back in time to save his wife from dying.

- **DID I MENTION I FREAKING LOVE MAPS?????** Omg, I *love* maps. Okay, see, I've had an obsession with them since I was a wee gnat. And this book is BUILT on maps. You have to have the "right map" to get to a certain place.

- **Although I won't lie sometimes it got confusing?** Stuff at the end went WHEEEEST over my head. But whatever.
- **Diversity.** DUH. I love diversity and not only was Nix, the protagonist, half-Chinese...her best friend Kashmir was Persian, one of the crew members was African and lesbian, and there is an incredible variety of ethnic culture squished in here. INCREDIBLE.
- **And let's talk about the writing, okay?!** Because it was decidedly delicious. Okay, but I won't deny: it bordered on "saying too much" at times. Like I could tell the book was really enthusiastic about history. OF COURSE! It's a time travel book! But sometimes with the pages of explaining a myth that just...I was a little bored? It was cool and interesting, but it distracted from the story.
- **Then there was Kash....** Ahhhh, Kash. He is a little slippery fingered, silver tongued, their and I LOVED HIM. So much sass. So much banter.

"You're blocking the view."

"I am the view, *amira*," he said, framing himself with his hands.

"I never knew you had such a fine eye for fabrics," I said as we continued up the street. "You should have been a tailor instead of a thief."

"I have a fine eye for all things, *amira*, which is why I'm a thief and not a tailor."

Dangit sassy smooth-talking thieves are my ultimate downfall. <3

- Which leads me to talk about a) the romance, and b) Nix. But they should probably be separated in different dot points. Omg, who is writing this review??? They are making a mess.
- **Firstly NIX.** Our bonnie narrator. Okay, I confess: I didn't like her so much? She didn't appear to have a lot of personality and was *constantly* dimmed by the fantastic vibrant characters all around her. I mean, I didn't hate her or anything!! But I wanted *more* from her, for sure.
- **Which leads to the romance...** You know what? This is NOT a very romantic book. It's more about friendship and while you kinda end up shipping Kash and Nix (AND I WON'T SAY WHAT HAPPENS BECAUSE DUH: SPOILERS) they are very solidly friends *firstly*. Which I really loved! As a not-particularly-romantic-reader myself, it didn't bother me that the romance was quite downplayed. I loved how it was handled. <3
- Plus they have **sass and witty banter** and I'm 1000% onboard with that. (HAR HAR "ONBOARD" HAR HAR.)
- **There is also a tiny pocket dragon.** I want one. I can't even. Because I want one just that bad.
- I did get annoyed at the last minute "**Omigosh, don't let Nixie do anything dangerous!**" Because what the heck dudes?? It's a) sexist, and b) she's doing dangerous stuff with you ALL THE TIME but *now* you choose to be jerks about it??? Not a fan.

- Okay but did I mention **MAPS AND DRAGONS** to you yet???? I'm legitimately hyperventilating because I love that so much.
- (Although in case you get the wrong idea, the dragon isn't a HUGE part? More like the book incorporates a lot of mythology and they collect it onboard the *Temptation*? So they collected a tiny dragon. It doesn't do that *much*, but I liked that it was there.)
- **Also occasionally FOOD.** Which I love.

A table was laid on the deck, and on the table, all the culinary delights New York had to offer: pungent halal chicken and rice doused in hot sauce, pork dumplings in Styrofoam clamshells, a cardboard box marked Difara's pizza, pastrami sandwiches thick as dictionaries, creamy cheesecake covered with glistening scarlet strawberries. Kashmire flung his arms wide. "Happy theft day!"

<333333

- **I mean, I do have niggly doubts?** Like the fact that it DRAGGED in the middle and I was quite bored. And how, even though it was a visual FEAST and I loved that, sometimes it bogged down the flow of the story.
- **But overall? I'M SO GLAD THIS WAS GOOD.** I really really really wanted to like this one and it is *definitely* a highly of the year so far. Oh shush, I know it's only January. **BUT I AM ALLOWED TO BE EXCITE.**
- If you want a story that involves **ships and thieves and obsessions and maps and diversity**, then this is for you. It's for me anyway. **ALL FOR ME.** I want to hug this book. Also take two minutes and fall in love with both the UK and US covers. Also I love this book.

"The last thing we need is for you to go to jail."
 "For treason?" he said, running a comb through his tousled hair. "We wouldn't go to jail."
 "Really?"
 "We'd be shot."
 "You always know just what to say."

Andie says

Time travel. History. Pirates. Three magic words in my book, what could go wrong? I really appreciated the unique premise and there were certainly some enjoyable aspects, but it unfortunately fell a little short for me.

THE GIRL FROM EVERYWHERE starts with 16 year old Nix aboard the ship, *The Temptation*. Nix has spent her entire life aboard the ship traveling through time, using maps to navigate through history and mythological places. Her father, the captain, is really only interested in one time and place though. Slate

longs to find his way back to Honolulu, 1868, where the love of his life, Nix's mother, died giving birth to her. To get there he only needs to obtain the right map. After years of searching, the map Slate needs seems to fall into his lap but they must go through a series of obstacles in order to get their hands on it. But what will happen if Slate is able to save her mother? Will Nix cease to exist? Slate isn't too worried about this possibility and is willing to do whatever it takes, but Nix is terrified and hopes to learn to Navigate on her own to escape her fathers obsession.

This book had so much potential but sadly, I'm left a bit disappointed. I was really excited starting this book but it didn't hold my interest for long. The pacing was a slow go and some parts were really drawn out. I honestly didn't connect with any of the characters. Kashmir was the best of the lot and I kept wishing for more scenes with him. He was the only one with any type of substance. There's also the dreaded love triangle, I hate love triangles! But this one just seemed so unnecessary and really forced. There is really only one choice in my opinion and I'm not sure why it's being dragged out. My biggest issue though was the time traveling itself. I'm not sure if it was my disconnect from the characters and story but I was a little confused about the entire process.

Despite my issues, this was certainly not a bad book by any means! There were plenty of good things mixed with the not so good. The concept was unique and interesting. I loved the history of the island, the myths, the magic, and the fantasy elements. If the plot holes were filled in I think I would have enjoyed this so much more. This book might not have been my favorite but I definitely think it would appeal to a wide variety of readers.

Thank you to Netgalley for providing me with an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Alyssa says

YOU ARE FOREWARNED: There may be spoilers in this review!

Review posted on The Eater of Books! blog

The Girl From Everywhere by Heidi Heilig
Book One of The Girl From Everywhere series
Publisher: Greenwillow Books
Publication Date: February 16, 2016
Rating: 2 stars
Source: eARC from Edelweiss

Summary (from Goodreads):

Heidi Heilig's debut teen fantasy sweeps from modern-day New York City to nineteenth-century Hawaii to places of myth and legend. Sixteen-year-old Nix has sailed across the globe and through centuries aboard her time-traveling father's ship. But when he gambles with her very existence, it all may be about to end. The Girl from Everywhere, the first of two books, will dazzle readers of Sabaa Tahir, Rae Carson, and Rachel Hartman.

Nix's life began in Honolulu in 1868. Since then she has traveled to mythic Scandinavia, a land from the

tales of One Thousand and One Nights, modern-day New York City, and many more places both real and imagined. As long as he has a map, Nix's father can sail his ship, The Temptation, to any place, any time. But now he's uncovered the one map he's always sought—1868 Honolulu, before Nix's mother died in childbirth. Nix's life—her entire existence—is at stake. No one knows what will happen if her father changes the past. It could erase Nix's future, her dreams, her adventures . . . her connection with the charming Persian thief, Kash, who's been part of their crew for two years. If Nix helps her father reunite with the love of his life, it will cost her her own.

In *The Girl from Everywhere*, Heidi Heilig blends fantasy, history, and a modern sensibility with witty, fast-paced dialogue, breathless adventure, and enchanting romance.

What I Liked:

This book was such a colossal disappointment - FOR ME. I recognize that the issues that I had with this book aren't issues that everyone will have. There are a slew of super positive reviews on Goodreads that came way before my review. So there is a very good chance that most people will find this book magical and wonderful and whatnot. But me? No. I will write my harsh negative review in hopes of warning others who have preferences like mine about the things that didn't work for me.

Aboard the Temptation with her father as Navigator, Nix has been to many places and many time periods. She was born in 1868, but she's been to modern-day New York and deep into the past as well. Her father is searching for a 1868 Honolulu map to be reunited with Nix's mother. But going back to the past, to the mother that died in childbirth, might mean that Nix's existence will disappear. She doesn't know if this WILL happen, but Nix would rather not take the chance. Nix is determined to make it out alive - but there is more at stake than she knows.

From the synopsis, this book sounds pretty great. Time-traveling fantasy, lots at stake, LINEAR ROMANCE (or so it sounded) -- "If Nix helps her father reunite with the love of his life, it will cost her her own." That makes it sound like Nix has one love (Kash, who was mentioned in the line of the synopsis just before this one); WRONG. See next section.

The best part of this book was probably Kashmir (Kash) - I love him so much, and I ache for him, because he does not get what he deserves (a million pounds of gold, a hot bath, and a girl who loves him and only him). He's charming and intelligent and clever and observant and hilarious. And he deserves better.

I honestly thought I was enjoying this book for a bit, with all the interesting historical facts and settings, the weird tales and myths of Hawaii (once the crew reaches Hawaii). It's clear that Heilig really did her research for the story, and it's well-written in that sense. Take away the negatives that I'll list below, and you've got a story of great world-building. And probably a decent, interesting story. But I REALLY did not like certain things, and those things ruined the book for me.

What I Did Not Like:

I'll warn you now that there may be spoilers ahead. I am too f***ing pissed to even think about screening spoilers in this section. Read at your own risk - but if you hate love triangles, you might want to read further regardless.

LOVE TRIANGLE IN THIS BOOK. And it's not a shy one. The synopsis makes the book sound like there is a linear romance! Kash, Nix, riding off into the sunset (or whatever). I LOVE it when the heroine is in love

with and/or slowly falls for her best friend! But that's not quite what happened here.

It's obvious that Kash loves Nix. Soooo obvious. He's a flirt and a tease and so charming and wonderful, but he's totally in love with her. Nix has him so friend-zoned though, although she starts to see otherwise as the book goes on. So that's part of the romance - she's seeing that she actually likes him beyond a friend.

But then the second part of the romance is introduced - Leg 2 of the triangle. Blake Hart is on Honolulu (year 1884 - daddy dearest overshot a little). AS SOON AS the author started going into a detailed physical description of a boy "close to Nix's age", I KNEW that he would show up again and he'd make up a love triangle. Why else do we care about his physical appearance? Right, because the heroine is going to fall for him too. YUP.

It would be one thing if Blake were one of those boys that falls for Nix, but Nix doesn't fall for him. You know, those "love triangles" in which one of the boys is an annoying pesky fly that won't go away, but you know he's the dead leg of the triangle because he's just annoying and the heroine doesn't care about him. But... she does. Don't get me wrong - Blake IS annoying.

The love triangle represents - wait for it - Nix's choice: Blake is a grounded boy, on the island, a constant guy. Kash is your wanderer, part of the crew on the ship. Choose Blake, you choose a settled life on Honolulu. Choose Kash, you choose the wanderer's life, ever the adventurer. SO F***ING CLICHE. And did I mention that Blake is annoying?

Spoiler -- she kisses them both. This bugs some people, and I know it's a deal-breaker for some. For ME, it just solidified the fact that there is a love triangle, and the type of love triangle that isn't about to go away.

And the ending - HA! The ending is a very clear indication that the love triangle isn't going to go away! We have ALL THREE OF THEM - Nix, Kash, and Blake - in the same space! Going to the same place! Are you f***ing kidding me?! That solidifies the love triangle EVEN MORE - Nix gets to bounce around between the two of them in book two. THIS IS WHAT BOTHERS ME THE MOST ABOUT THIS LOVE TRIANGLE.

All caps are totally necessary.

I thought the love triangle would turn out to be mild - at one point in the book, it looks like Nix is going to leave Hawaii (and Blake) forever - but that wasn't the case. So I'm ridiculously angry because the synopsis REALLY had me thinking that Nix's "love" would be Kashmir (and maybe it is, but then her "love" part 2 is Blake?). I love Kashmir. I think Blake is a such a waste of space. Pansy. Idiot. Weak. One-dimensional. A space-filler. The author REALLY wanted a love triangle in this book.

I want to say that Kashmir is the "real" choice, but let's not get ahead of ourselves. The heroine gives no indication of a preference, of which boy has more of her affection. Honestly the more I think about it, the more I despise Nix. She's not incredibly astute, intelligent, and decisive. Not that everyone has to be but... the fact that she isn't when she could/should be, bothers me. A lot.

Well this review is rapidly turning into a love triangle rant, so I'll switch gears for a second. This book is LONG - nearly 500 pages - and it really felt that way. Usually long books don't bother me! 300, 400, 500 pages never really deterred me from reading - or finishing - a book. But 10% into this book, and I was feeling the length. I dreaded continuing this book; maybe I wasn't in the mood, but this book took forever for me to get into it, and obviously I never really got invested. Or maybe I got too invested, which is why I

reacted so badly to the love triangle.

But anyway, I struggled with this book, especially when I first started reading it. It didn't hook me. It never hooked me. It took me entirely too long to finish this book, longer than it usually takes me. Some parts of it were sooo boring, other parts more exciting.

This book threw me because I thought for a second that I was reading a carbon copy of *Passenger* by Alexandra Bracken. Both deal with ships whose captains/navigators can take you to different times and locations. Weird, no? I didn't like this one nearly as much as I liked *Passenger*.

So, to recap. Love triangle; dumba** heroine; a struggle to get into the story; eerily similar to *Passenger* by Alexandra Bracken. Mostly - LOVE TRIANGLE with no end in sight. Ew ew ew.

Unfortunately this is a prime example of peer pressure gone wrong - I never would have gotten this book from Edelweiss had a friend not reviewed the book before the book was available from the publisher. I kind of regret ever considering this book! I rarely pick up books based on peer pressure alone - this is exactly why. Go with your instinct/interests, people!

Would I Recommend It:

I do not recommend this book under any circumstances, especially if you hate love triangle like me, or if ANYTHING I mentioned in the previous section bothered you. If you don't mind love triangles... this is probably going to seem like a jolly good story with lovely world-building and a uniqueness to the locations and whatnot. Otherwise? Steer clear of this one. Far faaaar away.

Rating:

1.5 stars -> rounded up to 2 stars (this is my generosity at its finest, people). I'm rounding up because there is a SLIM chance that I might read the next book, if only to see what happens. If the love triangle disappears quickly into the sequel, then I'll bite. But at the moment, I refuse to think about continuing with the series. SOMEONE COMFORT ME PLEASE.

Rachel (APCB Reviews) says

Quick Review: Wow. Just wow! I'm absolutely floored by the brilliantly crafted story of *The Girl From Everywhere*. My favorite part of the novel is a three-way tie between the aesthetic setting, so perfectly captured in both feel and culture, the relationship between Nix and her father, and the premise of time travel in association with the maps.

Overall this book is truly something special and should definitely be a book you check out.

Full Review:

Let me start by saying what a brilliant author Heidi is. Not only is her story engaging, but her meticulous planning and artful weaving of the plot leaves my mind blown with all expectations hit out of the proverbial park.

"Paradise is a promise no god bothers to keep. There's only now, and tomorrow nothing will be the same, whether we like it or not."

The majority of this book takes place in late 1800's Hawaii, and I love how well Heidi captures the vibes and feel of the paradisiacal island of Oahu. Her descriptions and tenderness towards the setting has me anxious to visit and feel and experience everything just as these characters did. I also really appreciated how Heidi captured the turning point where Hawaii lost more of its Hawaiian charm, culture, and authenticity and became overrun by foreign influence. It's a sad and tragic past, but someone has to tell it. So often it's written off as inconsequential, but Hawaii was annexed and diminished from its natural peacefulness in such a horrid way.

The main character, Nix is really intuitive and easy to relate to. She struggles with her warring desires and her idea of home and family. Slate, her father, is quite an enigmatic and complex person. I loved his development in the book. Kashmir is dashing and the wittiest comic relief. The secondary characters were fleshed out and each had their own respective backstories. Mostly everyone was likable too. One of my favorite parts of the book was the evolving relationship between Nix and Slate. Slate's monomaniacal obsession with saving Nix's mother in the past really fractured any genuine father-daughter relationship. I loved seeing their relationship grow, and my favorite scene in the whole novel happens between these two.

The romance in this book is kept to a minimum and although it looks like there might be a love triangle forming, it's hardly there at all and won't overshadow the plot or your love for the book. Also this is a duology, so everything will develop and sort itself out in the next book.

I was hooked on this book immediately from the beginning. The idea of this story is so well developed and explained. It was fascinating learning about the time travel and the importance of maps. I love how Heidi mixed various fantasy/myth and historical elements into her story. We get to read of places and elements we're familiar with and other creatures and destinations that are innovative creations. Some parts were a bit confusing at times with the time travel, but everything happens for a reason, and all is revealed by the end. There are so many unexpected events in this novel; the unpredictability of this adventure novel was a definite hit for me. I also love the incorporation of diverse cultures placed in the novel.

This book could read as a standalone, but there's one more book to give us another amazing adventure with this great cast of characters and a phenomenal author. I can't recommend this book enough!

Brittany (Brittany's Book Rambles) says

Heidi Heilig brings you an epic adventure from your wildest dreams with her debut novel *The Girl From Everywhere*. Seriously, this is like some Studio Ghibli magic, I swear (and this would make a great movie, so you movie makers better hurry and buy the rights to it because it would be BIG). Take a vacation in Heidi's imagination by reading her sea shanty adventure of a book—you won't regret it, this I promise you. There are so many great things happening in this book but I think that the most compelling thing about it is Nix's tangled relationship with her father, the captain of *The Temptation*. The emotions in that relationship are really raw and I think my heart shattered a bit while I was in Nix's shoes. There are also two swoony guys for any of you who are looking to add to your list of book boyfriends. Even though there is some romance, it's put on the back-burner because the plot is more focused on the adventure our pirates take on in order to find the **one** map that will bring either the beginning of the end for everything they know.

sreeja says

I went into this book with high hopes and sadly i feel a bit let down right now. I thought that this book would have adventurous moments and action but the plot was so bland in comparison. The characters were very interesting though! Especially Kash <3

Kash is a charming Persian thief whose mouth is nearly as sharp as his brain. And literally the first thing i thought of when thinking of Kash was Prince of Persia where Dastan was a thief as well. He is such a nice guy and the sweetest part is the subtle ways in which he tries to show Nix that he loves her like stealing things for her :D

BUT EVERYTHING JUST HAD TO GET RUINED BY THE STUPID LOVE TRIANGLE. LIKE WHYYYYYYYYYY. one thing i cannot stand is a love triangle when its not needed.

Overall i expected adventure drama cool fight scenes beautiful descriptions of faraway places but nope. We get a fanatical father, a daughter whose secretly a daddy's girl who just wants her father to love her and a totally irrelevant love triangle. i almost gave it a 3 but nahh the plot was definitely not interesting enough and the "climax" wasn't even good

Sarah says

(Source: I received a digital copy of this book for free on a read-to-review basis. Thanks to HarperCollins and Edelweiss.)

“No matter how detailed a map, once we’d visited, we couldn’t go back.”

This book wasn't bad, but it wasn't for me.

The characters in this were okay, but I didn't really feel anything for any of them. I did understand Nix's worries over what would happen to her if her father went back to the time where she was born, but that was it really.

The storyline in this just didn't interest me, and I found it quite hard to follow. It did have its interesting moments, but most of the time I just didn't care what would happen, and I kept putting this down to read something else.

Overall; I think other people will enjoy this book, but it wasn't for me.

Roshani Chokshi says

Mindblowing. Heilig's prose can conjure a paradise worthy of the devil's envy, ancient tombs of emperors, and a deep feeling of time and place that makes me suspect whether Heilig herself is capable of time travel. The characters of TGFE were deep, and rich in motivation. This tale is about found homes and memory. Both the things in memory that gain beauty when we resurrect them in our minds, and the things that lose beauty when we truly ponder the terrible tradeoffs of choice.

I loved each character. I want to hang out with Nyx, sail to Carthage, feed Swag a dish of pearls, and learn how to move through the veils of time. I want to dance with Kash, and be called "amira" under a marvel of stars. I want to share a beer with Slate, Rotgut & Bee. And I'd like my portrait drawn by Blake.

This is a read I will return to again and again.

Sana says

Intricately beautiful. I never knew I wanted to read a story about a time-traveling pirate ship so bad. I can't get over the elements that make up this book what it is.

The Girl from Everywhere is brilliantly executed from character dynamics to all the freaking heartbreaking plot twists. Fucking loved it!

Christina says

3.5 stars!

"Sometimes a person has to let go of something to take hold of something else. You always have to choose what's more important."

Sooo.....this book was different. Not bad necessarily, just different. I actually had pretty high expectations for this one, based on the premise and the amount of raving I was seeing from those who had read it already. This also happens to be the 3rd book I've read so far this year about time travel (not sure if maybe that's why it didn't quite hit my expectations, I tried not to compare it). This was probably the most unique of those three, but the most confusing as well.

First the main characters:

Nix, our MC. Sixteen year old daughter to Captain Slate. She has lived aboard her father's ship, *The Temptation* her whole life.

Captain Slate, Nix's father. He is the one who does the time traveling (also called Navigating). He is addicted to both opium and getting ahold of a map of 1868 Honolulu, in order to save his long lost love, Nix's mother and for the latter, he will do basically anything. (Again, more on that in a minute)

Kashmir, a thief and loyal crewmate aboard the *Temptation*. Nix's possible love interest, but more importantly, her best friend. Kash was, without a doubt, my favorite character.

Blake, who comes into the story once the crew arrives in Hawaii. He and Nix meet by chance and form a sort of friendship, though there is some attraction between the two.

There are, of course, other side characters throughout, the most notable being two other crewmates Bee (and Bee's deceased wife Ayen as a spiritual presence) and Rotgut, an old opium dealer by the name of Joss, who introduced Slate and Nix's mother to each other in 1864 Hawaii, and some shady characters in Hawaii, known as Mr. D, Mr. T., Mr. Hart (that one is Blake's father) and Milly.

Now, the time travel theory:

Heidi Heilig has a unique and original premise where time travel is concerned. According to what I've read, in order for Slate to Navigate, he needs an accurate and original map that was penned and dated for the year and place he would like to go and he needs to have a strong belief that the map will work, that the land he's attempting to reach does indeed exist. But he cannot travel to somewhere he's already existed. He cannot use the same map more than once. So like I said, very original concept. But there are still some holes.

·Is it just Slate who can Navigate or can others as well?

·Can Nix Navigate, if it's just something that's unique to Slate, since she is his daughter?

·Why the ship? Is it only possible on the sea or could you Navigate on land as well?

·How is it possible to go to mythological lands, even if you have an "accurate" map of said land? For example, they can Navigate to the land from *One Thousand and One Nights*...in my head, shouldn't time travel be limited to actual times and events that have without a doubt happened in the history of our world?

^These questions are all brought up at some point in the book, but for me, the answers weren't satisfactory. The time travel wasn't ever properly explained, you just kind of had to put the bits and pieces together yourself.

Finally, the storyline:

So basically, Captain Slate is obsessed with finding his way back to 1868 Honolulu, to when Nix's mother died in childbirth, so that he can save her and be with her still. But Nix has serious doubts. She is worried that this could alter her past completely or wipe out her existence altogether. But Slate will stop at nothing. He's already tried several maps he's acquired throughout the years, but each one has failed to work for him.

Upon finding a new Honolulu map that seems promising at an auction in modern day New York, they make the attempt. Turns out the Honolulu map had been misdated and it brings them to 1884 Oahu rather than 1868, obviously much too late to save Nix's mother. Coincidentally, had Slate never taken Nix from Hawaii after her mother's death, this is now the time and place that Nix would be living in. Nix meets both Blake and Joss while exploring in Chinatown.

While in the harbor, they are approached by a man who chooses to go by the name Mr. D, who has a proposition for Slate. He has an associate (Mr. Hart) who has an authentic 1868 map of Honolulu, penned by his deceased brother. Mr. D and his associate's know how badly Slate wants that map and they take full advantage. (view spoiler)

Honestly, this book reads like a standalone and I can't imagine what the author has in store for the sequel, though I'm wishing for the sequel to be in Kashmir's POV. The only thing I can see happening in the sequel is a possible love triangle. For this book though, the romance is practically nonexistent, which was nice. Despite this mainly taking place in the late 1800's, the conversation all seemed very modern. This is the only book I can think of that takes place in a historical setting, yet mentions having modern conveniences such as fluoride toothpaste and laundry hampers, and aboard a pirate ship no less. I guess those are just time travel perks.

And my favorite part about this book? **Multiple maps!!!** I love maps :) For every time they traveled to, there was the map for the place and time depicted. Another thing I really liked was that before the acknowledgments, the author included a brief description of the fairy tales/myths scattered through the book as well as some of the facts that the storyline was in part based off of. It was an interesting and informative part of the book that added to my overall enjoyment.

There are some who are comparing this book to *Passenger* by Alexandra Bracken, but having read that one earlier this year, I didn't really see many similarities, aside from time travel being the main theme. Both are very unique takes on a similar idea but the thoughts behind the theme and the accompanying storylines are extremely different. Had this one been explained a bit more thoroughly, it would've gone from good to great for me.

"Sometimes fate makes choices for us."
