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After her brilliant run on Broadway and surviving the harsh concrete jungle of New York City, seventeen-year-old Hollywood "It Girl" Kaitlin Burke is back in L.A. starting a sitcom with her former-nemesis-now-BFF, Sky. The show is a *huge* success! In fact, maybe a little *too* huge, Kaitlin realizes, after a bad run-in with aggressive paparazzi puts her boyfriend Austin in danger. She wishes, once again, that she could have a normal life.

But what Kaitlin doesn't realize is that her Hollywood life has had a positive influence on just about everyone she loves, and it takes a minor car accident and a nasty concussion to truly grasp how lucky she is. In Jen Calonita's sixth and final *Secrets of My Hollywood Life* novel, Kaitlin learns at last about the price of fame, the unending upside of friendship, and that there really is no place like home—even if it's Tinseltown.

There's No Place Like Home Details

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From Reader Review There's No Place Like Home for online ebook

Lexie says

So, I have finally read the conclusion of the Secrets Of My Hollywood Life series. I'd give this novel a 3.5 if that were possible, but I rounded up to 4.0 even, since we can't use halves. I would recommend this to the readers of the rest of the series, seeing that it provides closure.

SUMMARY (NO SPOILERS) So, Kaitlyn Burke is back in her final debut. She's got the life she's always dreamed of, producers knocking down her door, the best boyfriend in the world, and she's a Paparazzi Princess once again, but in a good way. So, what does the Starlet have to complain about NOW?!?! Well, her mother for one thing. Meg Burke just can't let her daughter make her own choices, and it's driving Kaitlyn up the wall. After Nadine makes a shocking announcement on Kaitlyn's eighteenth birthday, Hollywood's princess is about to snap. And she does, which ends in a terrifying chase by the paparazzi, and a traumatic car crash...

COVER So, overall, I like the cover of this book. It shows Kaitlyn's "Wizard Of Oz" bag, which played the largest role in literature's Handbag History. Okay, even if I did make that up, it's sorta true. I don't wanna give anything away, so I'm gonna shush now...

CHARACTERS Okay, so Kaitlyn annoys me a bit, I'll admit it. She does seem a bit whiny. I can see her problems, but why doesn't she ever look to the good things about her life? More than 85% of girls would kill to be in her place! Also, she never takes action, and lets her (even more annoying) Mother control EVERYTHING. And I mean EVERYTHING. Basically, the only character from the books that I still have a soft spot for is Austin. He's always there for Kaitlyn (Unless you count the alternate dimension-him. Oops! I've already said too much...), and he's an all around sweet, loyal guy.

PLOT (CONTAINS SOME SMALL-ISH SPOILERS!) I'm still not sure what I think about the plot... At first, I thought the whole alternate dimension thing was sorta cheesy. But I eventually came around, even if Kaitlyn's choices there made me want to pull my hair out...

ENDING (MINOR SPOILERS) I liked the ending. It provided much-needed closure for me, while still giving me time to breathe. I'm also happy that Austin and Kaitlyn made it through everything all right. But, I'm still wondering what ever happened to the alternate dimension peoples... Hmm...

No, David! No! says

[I HATED that they did the dream / alt-reality thing. I was confused for a couple of pages, and then when I realized what was happening, I was mad. I just skipped it all and went until the "dream" was over. (hide spoiler)]

Alison (AlisonCanRead) says

The final installment of Secrets of My Hollywood Life, one of my favorite light, chick lit series. I'm sad to see the books come to an end, although I'm excited to see what Jen Calonita has in store for us next.

That being said, There's No Place Like Home was not my favorite book in the series. I didn't dislike it, but it wasn't what I wanted out of the final book either.

The book starts out like all the others. Kaitlin has tons of things on her plate. Her pushy mom only makes things worse, encouraging Kaitlin to do too much and making her seem like she's attention-hungry. Kaitlin's friends (which now includes her former rival Sky) want her to put her foot down and set some limits. But Kaitlin just can't say no. Especially not to her mom.

Enter Stage Right...a head-on collision and an It's A Wonderful Life alternate universe. Kaitlin is now from a poor family, in a fancy school, and hated by everyone except her star-crazy friend Liz.

I admire Jen for doing something different with this book - for taking chances. It would be easy to coast along with what you already knew was successful. And there was nothing wrong with the alternate universe. In fact it was a great plot device. It showed Kaitlin what was wrong with her life and what was right with it. It convinced her to grow a backbone and start standing up for what she wants. But...I just didn't enjoy it. I love reading about Kaitlin's crazy family and star-studded life. Even though there are still celeb moments in Kaitlin's alternate life, it wasn't the same. Thankfully, the alternate universe doesn't last forever and I was very happy with the ending.

There's No Place Like Home was an enjoyable read even though it wasn't what I wanted. I love Kaitlin for all her foibles and cowardliness. I love that she is a normal girl in a crazy world. I love that she is endlessly loyal to her friends and somehow knows to do the right thing even if she stumbles a bit on the way. While this was probably my least favorite book in the series, I still think everyone who enjoys these books should read them and would still recommend people to pick up all six books.

Rating: 3.5 / 5

Kayla says

(Spoiler Alert: Do not read unless you've read the previous 5 books in the Secrets Of My Hollywood Life series.)

Secrets Of My Hollywood Life: There's No Place Like Home by Jen Calonita picks up shortly after Broadway Lights left off. Kaitlin and the rest of the Burkes are back in Hollywood with busy schedules. Matt's filming for his show and Kaitlin's busy filming her new show, Small Fries. But with two kids active in the Hollywood scene, mom-ager Meg Burke has her already full hands even fuller.

Once again Kaitlin struggles to find the balance between work and her personal life. With the pressure of working to pick Small Fries up off the ground, college applications, getting her license and making time to see Austin, Kaitlin finds herself on a runaway train back to a breakdown like she experienced in Paparazzi Princess.

After getting into a spot of trouble with Austin, Kaitlin gets a glimpse of what her life would be like without Hollywood a part of it. Suddenly crazy schedules, mom-agers who won't listen, and the paparazzi don't seem so bad. Kaitlin makes some huge choices in *There's No Place Like Home*, ones that will change the rest of her life.

There's No Place Like Home is the sixth and final book in the *Secrets Of My Hollywood Life* series. It definitely gives closure to all the characters and the series as a whole. You really get to see Kaitlin grow in this book and take steps to ensure she can have a personal life and a professional life. The chapters of Kaitlin seeing what her life without Hollywood are like are definite page turners, I found myself staying up later than usual to read just to find out her choice. While I'll miss Kaitlin, Liz, Austin, Sky, Matt, Nadine and the rest of the *Secrets* gang, *There's No Place Like Home* is a great way to say goodbye.

Book Rating: 8.5/10

Rebecca McNutt says

I thought this book would be generic and cliché, but surprisingly it wasn't that bad. It started off a little silly but quickly got better.

Alexandra Cathrine says

After Jen finally got this book out of the way, I would be happy if there were twenty books in the series. They are really easy and light to read, this one is definitely the worst in the series, yep even worse than the fourth one. I literally skipped the whole worthless dream sequence and I don't skip parts of books I've never read.

Ally says

There's No Place Like Home is a cleverly written book. The last in the *Secrets of My Hollywood Life* series is a thrilling conclusion. It's sad to see this series end forever and ever. I hate to say farewell to this series, but it's always meant to be. (The first book of this series is *Secrets of My Hollywood Life*, if you are interested in reading this series. This series doesn't have numbering on covers.) The series is recommended to anyone ten years old and up.

The plot is cleverly woven. All the words and sentences create a vivid movie that I can see with my imagination and thinking. I like how the author creates the situation and solution. *There's No Place Like Home* is a *Wizard of Oz* retelling, but in a modern world without Oz, witches, red shoes, wizards, and evil/good schemes. All the secrets of Hollywood are revealed as the narrator travels through the normal Hollywood and the made-up world of Hollywood without Kaitlin Burke.

I love the conflicts in *There's No Place Like Home*. There's, of course, multiple conflicts going on. The major one is character v. self and character v. character. The favorite one is character v. self which totally reminds me of my own conflicts and situations in life. Great link to my life!

Character: (There's No Place Like Home isn't really a book for a review on other characters. It's a Kaitlin Burke centered book.)

Kaitlin Burke's stunning and beautiful characteristic transformation is so inspiring. It makes me want to change my own goals and wants in life. Burke's indecision on whether to have a normal life or an acting life has been a major conflict throughout the series. Thankfully the author decided to settle this once and for all...with a Wizard of Oz trick. Burke is Dorothy trying to return to her rightful place in Hollywood. In her normal life, she discovers how much she truly love acting in movies and FA. With her newfound wants, she wholeheartedly embraces her acting life and no longer takes things for granted.

Rating: Five out of Five

Farewell :')

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Kelsey Haywood says

really disappointed in this one... it was pretty much kaitlin and her mom arguing, too much going on in her life, then she has this super clear vivid dream of what her life would be like if she wasn't famous..? i had to skip that part, which was most of the book, because it was so boring. i loved all the other books in this series, but this one was just... meh.

Francesca says

Kaitlin's Story Ends

Honestly? This was the worst book in the series. Minor spoilers ahead.

Maybe it's just my opinion, but I really hated the alternate reality.

The only bright spot during all of that was Meg being a real Mom as opposed to a momager. Oh, and maybe Laney, since she could see the talent.

I'm kind of sad that it ended with a book that I could barely finish. It got three stars solely because the start was pretty good and the ending was sweet.

I'm going to miss everybody, except Meg and Matty. Okay, even them

Jemimah says

Uhhhhh I was so nervous to read this because of (yet again) what Jeanine told me but then I finally read it and it wasn't as scary as Broadway Lights! I was so scared in Broadway Lights because Kaitlin and Austin's relationship was shaky and all but that wasn't the case here in the sixth book!

(Before anything else, let us fangirl over THIS <https://twitter.com/JenCalonita/status...>)

So there. Anyway. Uhhh, even from the early books I wanted Kaitlin to fire Meg. haha Meg got into my nerves a lot, because she kept pushing and pushing Kaitlin even when those things were out of line already. Or sometimes I thought maybe Kaitlin could quit show business, but then I'd realize she really loves what she's doing and she shouldn't quit just because there were several problems.

I was so angry at Nadine when I learned that she was gonna be Sky's manager. I figured that there would be a dream involved in this book, and at first I thought when Kaitlin woke up and Seth and Laney and Nadine were arguing with her mom, that was still a dream. I really thought of that until she woke up when she was in the hospital (like in her real life). But then I realized it was real and Nadine was gonna be Sky's manager (up until now I feel bitter about this, for some reason, although I love Sky very very very much. And Nadine, too. But ummm yeah) I guess I am happy now because Nadine manages Sky and Sky trusts her to take care of her career, the same way that Nadine has always been there for Kaitlin. However, I think there would always be conflicts. I think.

I love Austin. I love Austin to bits and pieces. I love how Austin and Liz are two constants in Kaitlin's life no matter what her career is. Of course, there's her family, but besides her family there is Austin and Liz. I loooooove Austin and Kaitlin together I want to cry. Even though Austin is a jerk at first, he finally stepped up and wanted to see that Kaitlin is okay. Man I love Kaitlin and Austin.

This series took me long because some parts didn't grip me as much as I hoped they would but I would really miss them. I miss them already.

Laurie says

I feel like the series could have continued after this book (there was plenty of potential with Kaitlin just starting college - would have been interesting to see how she managed to balance that with her Hollywood career), but I guess it's always best to be left wanting more!

Olivia says

PARTIAL SPOILER

Very disappointing. It's such a shame because I remember loving these books in middle school and devouring each one. Last month I checked to see if the series had any new installments just out of curiosity, and since this was the concluding book I decided to finish out the series I had enjoyed so much. Maybe my reading taste has matured since I first picked up these books, or I'm just too old for them now but I started to realize very quickly how poorly it is written. I feel like the author just threw this together just to end the series and did not put absolutely any amount of effort or creativity in it; this book seemed like a rough draft. The dialogues were ridiculous throughout the whole book, the "dream sequence" was laughable, and the script excerpts from "Family Affair" and "Small Fries" were unbelievable. I was not happy with this final installment, however, since I have not read any Calonita books since the time I put down the 5th SOMHL book, I am interested in reading some more sequels to other books of hers I liked to see if I am this let down with her other work.

Nancy says

One of the first rules of writing is to write about what you know. The author has worked as a Hollywood journalist for years, interviewing the hottest teen idols in the business. What was so enjoyable about the series (okay, I only read #5 and #6) is that Calonita creates likeable protagonists, likeable antagonists, and likeable support characters. It is also a clean read, worthy of Disney Channel's ratings. Rather than giving a lot of fluff I can pick up in any gossip magazine, Calonita gives the reader an interesting story and peppers it with Hollywood Secrets, scripts from plays, commercials, or television series, and (most entertaining) media interpretations (read: gossip articles).

The sixth book is the culmination of the previous five where Kaitlyn Burke is a star that is highly sought, driven beyond exhaustion by her mother/manager and wonders how it would be to have a normal life. She has a great boyfriend, supportive best friends, a fantastic career, and Jimmy Choos shoes to die for. Heck, she has Jimmy Choos. My best shoes come from Nordstrom Rack. But she is not making any of her own decisions. Her personal assistant insists she go to college. Her mother pushes her to take on two major movies during her hiatus along with double booking her for whatever event gives her media exposure (like taking her driving test), her agent and publicist have another agenda while Kaitlyn doesn't know what SHE wants to do. So she follows the yellow brick road and gets in a car crash, wakes up, and she's normal. In fact, she has cooties.

The fresh take on this reverse Cinderella story is that Kaitlyn finds things in her new life that she loves, defines her priorities and then makes changes in her new life to help her friends and family members. She isn't Jimmy Stewart in *It's a Wonderful Life* who ends back on the bridge having made no headway whatsoever. There is no fairy Godmother or Clarence or Glinda. It's Kaitlyn winning over friends and influencing people. Yes, she grows a backbone but I won't tell you how.

It's a fun, quirky, teen, chicklit read.

Reading Vacation says

I have had such a good time reading about Kaitlin and her adventures in Hollywood and on Broadway in this series. She has been through a lot - starring on an extremely popular TV series, dealing with the egos of other actresses, learning how to stay out of trouble off-stage, having her series canceled, keeping a long distance relationship with her boyfriend – A LOT.

In this final book of the series, things are going great for Kaitlin. Her new Hollywood show is a hit, she is friends with Sky (her former rival), and her relationship with Austin is moving forward. I liked seeing Kaitlin happy with everyone getting along.

BAM

An accident caused by the paparazzi leaves Kaitlin with a concussion. While she is recovering, Kaitlin imagines what life would be like if she had never been famous. Let's just say that things would have been VERY different and Kaitlin realizes what is truly important to her and what she should be thankful for. I

think the concussion changed her in a good way.

Hey, I think I just figured out the title. There's No Place Like Home – just like in The Wizard of Oz when Dorothy hit her head, had that crazy dream, and woke up at home thankful for what she had.

Back to my review.

I like that there was some resolution to Kaitlin's relationship with her mother – her “momager.” These two have had a rocky time in the past, and their surprising solution solves all of that.

I think this book is a nice ending to an enjoyable series. You know, I don't think I'd be cut out for the Hollywood lifestyle, but I had fun reading all about it.

RATING

4 Liked

COVER COMMENTS

I think the bright red is a perfect fit since it symbolizes Dorothy's shoes in The Wizard of Oz. Nice touch!

Paige says

"There's No Place Like Home" is about Kaitlyn Burke, a teen that's famous for acting and starring on Broadway, and how her life would be like if she wasn't famous. After Kaitlyn and her boyfriend Austin drive off in an SUV on a paparazzi chase, the driver goes into the wrong lane and a huge accident has happened. After the accident, Kaitlyn goes into a dream where she was never famous and none of her old friends know who she is. Kaitlyn has to figure out how to tell people that she really is famous and that they know her! This story takes place in Hollywood: including many different shops, restaurants, TV/movie sets, and even a school! Kaitlyn has to live her life living as a normal teen and it takes a toll on her. She is very confused because she knows who she is on the inside, but no one believes that she really is famous! Kaitlyn has to learn how lucky she is to have great friends and family, and that even though she gets stressed out sometimes, there's no place like home.

I rate this book 3 stars because it definitely did not live up to the other books in this series, "Secrets of My Hollywood Life." The other books had much more drama and relationships than this one. I didn't like this book that much because it was also very confusing. The author never told us that Kaitlyn had a concussion or that she was having a dream, or nightmare, until the very end of the book. I also didn't like how Meg Cabot made Kaitlyn not famous and poor. I felt like it didn't complete the series as well as I thought it should've. You should read this book if you like fame and romance. Also try this book out if you like Sarah Dessen!
