



The House at 758

Kathryn Berla

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Sixteen year old Krista is still grieving the untimely death of her mother when her father's new girlfriend moves into their home. He's already moved on and wants Krista to do the same, but she's not ready to resume a normal life yet. Distancing herself from those around her, Krista spends all of her time obsessively watching a mysterious house, the house at 758.

When a fellow classmate, Jake, takes a sudden interest in her, Krista feels excited for the first time in two years, but feelings of guilt consume her, and she ends up pushing Jake away. It isn't until her grandfather makes a surprise visit from Venezuela that Krista is finally able to confront her grief and begin to let things go.

The House at 758 Details

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From Reader Review *The House at 758* for online ebook

Mariatakones says

Un libro juvenil pero que me ha resultado muy bonito y entretenido en su lectura. Y bueno, una historia que, ahora que soy madre de un adolescente, me recuerda lo difícil que resulta esa etapa; la adolescencia es difícil y diría que incluso traumática en algunos casos.. Y si encima ha ocurrido algún hecho como el que sufre la chica del libro, aún más.

Es conmovedor, amable, simpático, tierno... Y bonito, sobre todo bonito.

Los libros de esta editorial siempre son sobre temas sociales y/o de superación, pero en este caso debo decir que he echado de menos algo más de profundidad en lo que se presenta en la historia. En primer lugar, en la sinopsis nos habla del abuelo y del Holocausto, y en realidad el abuelo aparece en la mitad del libro y durante pocas páginas.

A pesar de encontrar que se ha quedado muy en la superficie de muchas cosas, el libro se lee genial y está muy bien escrito. Ah, y me ha gustado mucho que los desenlaces de la historia, sean desenlaces más o menos realistas y no nos quieran vender la moto de las familias mega felices.

¿Recomendaría este libro? Sí, una lectura muy agradable y que probablemente sea una buena opción si estáis buscando un regalo para un adolescente.

Korynne says

This book features a coming-of-age story about Krista, whose mother recently died. She hasn't yet gotten over the death and is still burdened with grief every day. Krista deals with her grief by periodically visiting a house, the house at 758, which has a significant meaning to her. We spend half of the story trying to piece together the mystery surrounding that house and its inhabitants, although I guessed rather early on what her reasons were for continually going there. In the latter half of the story, we learn about Krista's grandfather, who has come to stay with her for a short time, and his years spent in camps during the Holocaust. We hear stories from his life, so although this is a contemporary book, there are bits and pieces of powerful 1940s historical fiction.

Krista's grandpa's story is more than just a war narrative, though: it's a passionate story focused on the time we have left on this earth and making the most of that time. That is ultimately what the whole book is about, and the grandpa's stories tie very well into that.

The main emphasis of this story is the importance of family. Although there is a mild romance in this contemporary novel, it is like the third or fourth sub-plot, which I found to be refreshing. The romance was the only part that I found to be slightly unrealistic. It moved a little too fast, probably so it could fit into the short book, but I did appreciate that it remained a clean romance.

The House at 758 is a simple story, calm and relaxing, but powerful. It's about how one small moment in someone's life can make a lifelong impact in someone else's life. These important messages are delivered through Berla's lyrical prose that was easy to enjoy. Although a shorter read, this book doesn't lack in characterization or depth, for the most part.

I really like Krista as a protagonist, and I'm going to miss reading from her perspective now that the book is over. I related a lot to her, and it was comforting to read about her and her life.

"Hate doesn't hurt the hated person . . . it only hurts the person who hates."

Thank you to NetGalley for a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Also view this review on my blog: <http://mystoreysofstories.blogspot.co...>

Saray says

En general ha sido un buen libro y con un mensaje final que me ha gustado mucho, a pesar de que no ha llegado a emocionarme como otros muchos.

Esto creo que se debe a que es un libro bastante corto, de solamente 237 páginas, con lo que he encontrado que falta profundidad en algunos temas.

Una de las cosas que más me atrajeron de esta novela fue descubrir la historia del abuelo de Krista. Es una parte muy importante en la trama y el desenlace, además de ser la que más disfruté, pero que se desarrolla en la segunda parte y de forma bastante rápida.

Aún así, la relación con su abuelo me ha parecido muy tierna y bonita. Es un hombre fuerte, que no ha tenido una vida fácil, pero aún así se siente agradecido por estar vivo y poder disfrutar de ello.

La autora también introduce una historia de amor que he visto totalmente prescindible y nada necesaria. Es una trama secundaria pero que sin ella me hubiera gustado mucho más. Además, también la vi algo predecible y un poco tópica.

Reseña completa: <http://beingsaray.blogspot.com.es/201...>

Angelica says

A million years ago, back in May 2017, I received a copy of this book for review via NetGalley. And because I am me, I completely forgot about it. Eventually, by the time that I did remember it, the book had expired and I could no longer get to it. Still, I felt I had an obligation to read and review this novel. So, when it came into my local library I went and I got it and now, here we are. Let's get to this review and I'll try to keep it short.

I don't know what I expected from this book but it certainly wasn't what I got. In a way, this book was far better than I ever imagined it would be. This book is about a young girl, Krista, whose mom died and who now had to live with her father and his new girlfriend. The only way Krista has of dealing with her depressive thoughts is by focusing on the mysterious house 758.

For a good part of the book, we are drawn into the mystery of the house and who lives there, as well as why it is that Krista is so obsessed with it. This was interesting to read about at first but after a while, I felt it kind of dragged a bit. For having been such a short novel (250 pages) I felt that a bit long near the middle and this is why I am not rating it higher.

The characters in this book were interesting and compelling enough to keep me interested although at times I did get a little fed up with Krista. I also wasn't a huge fan of the romance that develops between Krista and her Jake. Don't get me wrong, the romance is a not the main focus of the story, nor does it distract from the plot.

What I enjoyed most about this book is that it focuses a lot on family and I really liked Krista's interactions with her grandfather. Young adult novels have the tendency to focus on just the main character and their problems instead of looking at the those around them and how they are dealing with the situations. This book though is a coming of age story that focuses on family dynamics and coming together.

Overall, I'm really glad I got to pick this up regret not having read it earlier. I would recommend this to someone who likes reading YA coming of age stories.

I received an advance copy of this book from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own.

Morris says

“The House at 758” is a coming-of-age story centered around grief and the unhealthy ways people deal with it. I found Krista and those around her intriguing and I genuinely worried about her mental health and safety. It's an odd story in the way it reads and that adds to the appeal. The storytelling fits the plot perfectly and almost becomes a character unto itself. Recommended!

This unbiased review is based upon a complimentary copy provided by the publisher.

Manon says

I was provided an ARC via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

The House at 758 tells the story of Krista. Krista is in High School, has exactly one friend and has suffered a terrible loss some time before. We learn more and more about that loss and how it happened as the book goes on.

I felt for Krista but she was still such a brat. I often wanted to shake her, she drove me insane at times. I couldn't relate with her.

The plot, however, wasn't too bad, I mostly enjoyed the journey she went through and her growth...

Vera Burris says

A beautiful story. The climax was hinted at so subtly, with a lot of story to keep one interested in the meantime. Krista had a horrific experience, but she was lucky in who could help her overcome it. Not every

girl gets to tell her anguish to the hot football star and find perspective in the tragedy of her grandfather's past. Wonderful descriptions, perfectly understandable as the narrator hopes to be a writer. If she writes as well as her creator, she will be a great success

Leslynn says

Copy courtesy of NetGalley

A sweet look at loss, love, forgiveness and moving forward.

Beth says

It's hard to describe this book. It's sad but it's also happy. It doesn't have the happiest ending but in some ways, it does. It's not the saddest book, but in some ways it is. I highly recommend this one.

Laura says

Krista (MC) is going through a rough time when we meet her with her mom having passed and her dad having a new woman move into the house. She begins to isolate herself by spending most of her time outside on the roof in her tent, but it doesn't seem to be much of an inconvenience to her as it is to those around her who seem concerned about her and the odd choices she's making.

The story begins in the early summer and Krista's dad is hounding her to find something productive to do with her free time such as joining the swim team or getting a job. Krista's best friend Lyla is going away for the summer, but tries to be reassuring that she is there for Krista if she needs her and openly states that she thinks Krista is a "big responsibility".

The book pulls you in when Krista starts displaying acts of teenage defiance when she starts coming home late, stealing from the mall, and stalking the house at 758. You can sense her anger that those around her have moved on from her mother's death sooner than she would have preferred.

The story is good, and I felt drawn into the developing relationship with the grandfather. His story was absolutely beautiful, and I would love to have more- but it was just enough to help Krista develop and grow.

I felt the romantic relationship between Krista and Jake was a bit unnecessary, except to give her a comfortable outlet to express her feelings later on in the book. There could have been more development and growth of their relationship to help the story progress and give their specific relationship more meaning.

Near the end and around the resolution we learn additional information on Krista's loss (not her mother) that was hardly hinted at earlier in the book and therefore didn't have much of an impact as I believe it should have. This is probably the only negative thought I had while reading this book.

I really enjoy how this book was written. It flows very well and the language and thought process of the MC

is easy to follow, making this a quick read. The authors use of adjectives and adverbs paints a perfect picture of what is happening in the book that I find myself immersed within its pages. However, I feel the story was either too short (by about 100 pages of detail and interactions that could have helped development), or was too long (should have been turned into a short story with details such as romantic relations excluded).

The cover is simple, but enjoyable to look at. I marked this book as "want to read" after the cover piqued my interest, and reading the description the book sounded relatable to me and like it may be a decent coming of age, or young adult suspense novel. At a short 158 pages I figured this book would be a nice "pallet cleanser".

I give this book a 3/5 star rating.

This rating and review is based on immediate feelings after completing this book, and is not in comparison to other books I have read.

I would probably recommend this book to a friend who wants a quick read and enjoys coming of age stories.

I received a copy of this book from NetGalley in return for my honest review.

~ Althea ~ ? says

// Received an advance readers copy in exchange for a fair review //

"keep adding to your life - a little bit this, a little bit that,"

I didn't know what to feel about this book at first, but I have to say that I was pleasantly surprised. It made me feel giddy and nervous at the same time and that's really rare for me.

I like the family aspect of the book because not a lot of YA books do that nowadays. The book is focused on both the teen individual's life and the family in general. The plot is something that I know a lot of teenagers who are going through the same thing would be able to relate to.

There are certain things about the 'love story' that I still find too cliché but even I have to admit that it was pretty cute and again, still managed to make me feel giddy.

This was so mysterious.

"but dont go with hate in your heart"

this is a lowkey beautiful book

Hamad says

Thanks for the Publisher for providing an ARC of this book through Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

Actual Rating: 3.5 stars

Plot: Krista is a 16 year old teenager who is going through the phases of grief as explained in the book, she lives with her father, a doctor who is also a control-freak and Krista, her father nurse and his new love after the loss of Krista's mother. So the book starts with describing Krista's depressive life, she and Emma are like the two hands of a weighing scale, if one is happy the other will be sad... Although Emma is trying her best to fit in!

Krista keeps driving to house 758, where supposedly she sees "someone" who did "something" and that goes on and on for many pages and we are supposed to be curious to know who and why (To be honest, I was curious but it dragged more than it should have).

Also, Jake now is brave enough to get into her life, he has always been there but he didn't have the courage to face her but know once that "thing" has happened and she longs for a normal life, Jack is the only one who treats her in that way.

Also, her sick grandpa is paying them a visit for medical purposes and he also has that effect of old people of being carefree and speaking his mind so he kind of changes her life.

Things that I like:

- * There were some good quotes throughout the book, the writing style is not so special but it was not half-bad
- * The psychological aspect was well written and as a medicine student I could relate to Krista's depression
- * The Grandpa character was also very well-written and realistic!
- * Beautiful cover, I don't know why, but I like it very much!!

Things that I didn't like:

- * Although this was a fast read, the book could be even shorter because some parts were unnecessary and repetitive.
- * I already have a diagnosis for Mr. Grandpa, I thought that it was an important part of the story but then it was suddenly ignored!
- * Some parts were not very convincing.

Summary:

This is not supposed to be a very happy story, life is not fair and that exactly is what this book depicts. It was good in being realistic and it felt like watching a family movie. sometimes I am in the mood to read something depressive and this was a good choice! But don't be fooled as it is also about moving on and second chances!!

Fav Quote:

"I couldn't hate everyone- there were too many to hate. Where would I stop? Hate doesn't hurt the hated person... it only hurts the person who hates."

Samantha (WLABB) says

Rating: 4.5 Stars

I am utter trash for grief books, and Berla did so many things I love in this book. I am really impressed with the amount of story she was able to accomplish in such a short book, and thought she did a good job dropping those breadcrumbs for me to find, as I tried to figure out the whole story behind Krista's loss.

•Pro: Yes, it's another grief book, and the pain in this one was intense. We know Krista is still dealing with her mother's death two years later, but we don't have the full story, and I knew there was more to it, because Berla dropped these little breadcrumbs along the way. My heart cracked in half when I got the whole story.

•Pro: Krista was so wounded and consumed by her sadness. She felt alone, but also felt like people handled her with kid gloves, because of what had happened. I really wanted her to find an outlet for her pain, because it was eating her alive.

•Pro: Jake! This boy was special. Any guy, who can see past that "meet cute" is a keeper, but he proved himself worthy of Krista's friendship over and over again. I really enjoyed the scenes they shared together, and was keeping my fingers crossed that Krista would be able to escape her fog of grief long enough to enjoy Jake's company.

•Pro: I loved my grandparents so much, and am thrilled when they are featured in stories. Krista's maternal grandfather visited from Venezuela, and he really helped Krista with her healing process. We also got to learn about her grandfather's childhood, which caused some tears. I loved the way his story was used to help Krista too.

•Pro: It was awesome to see Krista's social circle grow as she started to heal. With each new friend, we saw Krista becoming more and more whole.

•Pro: I was really impressed with how much story Berla gave us in so few pages. This is a short book, but it's very complete. I felt like the characters and storyline were well developed.

•Pro: Berla didn't go with the miraculous healing angle. Krista suffered a great loss, and avoided dealing with it for two years, so her journey was not over when the book ended, but she was moving in the right direction, and I thought that was realistic.

•Pro: It was an interesting choice Berla made with the ending, and the very end. Well, let's just say I re-read it, and I am crying a little right now. It was very sweet.

Overall: A beautiful and moving story of love, loss, grief, loneliness, family, and healing. I loved every minute of this book, and adored the way Berla had the story unfold.

**I would like to thank the publisher for the advanced copy of this book.

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Hristina says

This review is also on my blog [illbinealonereads](#)

Coming of age stories are always an interesting read. They can either be the best books of the year, or tricky to consume. Up until I started reading this book, I had never met a coming of age story that was somewhere in the middle.

The House at 758 contains a side of the coming of age trope that we don't get to see often, a somewhat unexplored theme. It's backing that theme up with well-written characters, fluid writing, and interesting plot points. And then something unexpected begins: we get to see useless things happen. We get to see unnecessary plot points and dialogue, one of the few flaws this book has, but it affects it in a major way. It's a quick read, and the writing is incredible. It's not a bad book, but few moments in it took away from my overall impression.

*Copy received through NetGalley

*Actual rating: 3.5/5 stars

Jayne Catherine pinkett says

I received an early copy of this book in return for my independent honest review. This well written and well translated book got me thinking about all perspectives of grief from those of a young adult coming to terms with the loss of a parent, the widowed spouse trying to move on with life and also the older generations in our lives who have seen so much and felt grief in all its dimensions. In my opinion this book tackles love, loss coming of age in a easy to understand way that is emotional and believable. I enjoyed the characters and their interactions.

Great book for its target audience, but also as a parent it helped me understand how loss affects our children in different ways to us.
