

The background features a complex network of white nodes connected by thin white lines, set against a gradient background that transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with some forming distinct geometric shapes like triangles and polygons. The overall aesthetic is modern and digital.

The Rest of the Story

Written by Sarah Dessen

Published by aberdeenrw

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The Rest of the Story

By Sarah Dessen

The Rest Of The Story

Emma Saylor doesn't remember a lot about her mother, who died when she was ten. But she does remember the stories her mom told her about the big lake that went on forever, with cold, clear water and mossy trees at the edges.

The Rest Of The Story Sarah Dessen

Now it's just Emma and her dad, and life is good, if a little predictable, until Emma is unexpectedly sent to spend the summer with her mother's family—her grandmother and cousins she hasn't seen since she was a little girl.

The Rest Of Our Life

When Emma arrives at North Lake, she realizes there are actually two very different communities there. Her mother grew up in working class North Lake, while her dad spent summers in the wealthier Lake North resort. The more time Emma spends there, the more it starts to feel like she is divided into two people as well. To her father, she is Emma. But to her new family, she is Saylor, the name her mother always called her.

The Rest Of The Owl

Then there's Roo, the boy who was her very best friend when she was little. Roo holds the key to her family's history, and slowly, he helps her put the pieces together about her past. It's hard not to get caught up in the magic of North Lake—and Saylor finds herself falling under Roo's spell as well.

The Rest of the Story

The Rest Of The Week

For Saylor, itâ€™s like a whole new world is opening up to her. But when itâ€™s time to go back home, which side of her will win out?

If you'll all excuse me, I'll be over here, being Sarah Dessen trash for my whole entire life

The Rest Of My Life

The Queen of YA contemporaries has a new book coming out?
You bet I'm gonna read it. :)

You can make life, or life can make you!

The Rest of the Story, by Sarah Dessen, will likely land as one of my favorite reads this year. That's a bold statement because we haven't even hit the mid-year mark, and I've read over 50 books. However, as my reading buddies can attest to, it hasn't been a good year. So, thank you Dessen for coming out with a story I can fall right into and feel like I'm walking alongside family and friends. This is such a great book because Dessen does what she's best at: You can make life, or life can make you!

The Rest of the Story, by Sarah Dessen, will likely land as one of my favorite reads this year. That's a bold statement because we haven't even hit the mid-year mark, and I've read over 50 books. However, as my reading buddies can attest to, it hasn't been a good year. So, thank you Dessen for coming out with a story I can fall right into and feel like I'm walking alongside family and friends. This is such a great book because Dessen does what she's best at; she creates a novel with relatable characters, dealing with topical situations, exposing their flaws and insecurities, and demonstrating their struggles with family, friends and life in general.

Emma Saylor is on her way to spend a few weeks in North Lake with her estranged family. After the death of her mom, Emma hasn't been around to see her maternal grandmother, aunt or cousins in many years. During her time there, she becomes reacquainted with Jack, Bailey, Roo and Trinity. The relationships are strained at first because of her time away and the fact that her father, who originally comes from Lake North, which is the affluent side of town, have highlighted how different she is and how sheltered her father has kept her from her mother's past and family. During her time at North Lake, she uncovers her history and confronts her father with her decision to stay connected with her North Lake family and friends. Emma Saylor is definitely one of Dessen's more mature and relatable characters. She is extremely loyal to her paternal grandmother and father, as well as, her new step-mom. I loved the way she handled stressful and new situations, especially because there was an under-current of some of her struggles with anxiety. Emma had a quiet strength about her that I loved so much.

There were so many secondary characters that added a meaningful layer of how loyalty, love and support runs deep and is the key to what makes solid friendships and a strong family.

Overall, I have to say that I highly recommend The Rest of the Story by Sarah Dessen, especially if you're struggling to find a novel with meaning, depth and soul. This one was a hit in my opinion.
...more

The Rest Of Us

Probably more of a 4 star book overall but I had to bump it up to 5 because it made me so damn happy while I was reading it.

Listen, Sarah Dessen is the queen of teen for a reason - she writes solid books. I've probably read all of them and while I didn't love all of them, I at least enjoyed them while I was reading.

But this one.

I don't think I've liked a Sarah Dessen book this much since I read Lock & Key for the first time. And it wasn't just because Emma had major anxiety associated with driving. Probably more of a 4 star book overall but I had to bump it up to 5 because it made me so damn happy while I was reading it.

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But this one.

I don't think I've liked a Sarah Dessen book this much since I read Lock & Key for the first time. And it wasn't just because Emma had major anxiety associated with driving and that is the most #relatable thing I've ever read. Everything was just so well paced and crafted, the characters were so rich and vibrant and I honestly couldn't pick a favourite out of the bunch no matter how hard you pressed me (except that its definitely Gordon). It was a quintessential Sarah Dessen summer romance slash characters discovering themselves while on a lake book and it just checked all my boxes.

The verdict is: I will be Sarah Dessen trash until the day I die, thanks for coming to my ted talk ...more

the day sarah dessen writes a gay book, my heart will finally be satisfied

The Rest Of The Day

I don't think that I have ever read a Dessen that I didn't enjoy. Her books are like food for me. Definitely perfect for fans of contemporary YA fiction. I think that *The Rest of the Story* is going to tug at some heart strings.

Originally published on [The Nerd Daily](#) | Review by Teralyn Mitchell

I've been a big fan of Sarah Dessen for years now so I was happy that I got the chance to read *The Rest of the Story* and it was the perfect summer read. It takes place on a lake in the summer, surrounded by family. It's a coming-of-age story for Emma Saylor who has always been neurotic and cautious about everything and it seemed to escalate after her mother died. She never knew her mother's side of the family since she hadn't seen them since she visited for a week when she was four years old. When Emma's summer plans fall through, she is whisked back to North Lake. It's awkward and Emma feels out of place at first since it seems all of them know of her but she knows nothing about them. But slowly as the days turn into weeks, Emma starts to relax. She spends her time at her grandmother's helping clean the motel rooms, hanging with her cousins, getting to know the guy who was her best friend when she was a kid, Roo, and learning about her mother and the past that's been closed off to her all these years. Emma came into her own as the story progressed and by the end, she had gotten the rest of the story and had her family back.

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Emma Saylor was wonderfully awkward and neurotic. I liked how she'd say what she thought most of the time. Her relationship with her dad, Nana, and Tracy, her stepmother, was good. It was nice that she did not have any problems with her father remarrying. She cared for her family and friends. She was such a strong character that I could relate to. I loved Roo as well. He was sweet, considerate, and funny. I thought he and Emma were perfect together and their chemistry was immediate and I loved seeing those two together. Those scenes were some of my favorite along with Emma and Trinity. Trinity could be harsh and complained so much about being pregnant. You could not say anything around her in the complaint without her bringing up the fact that she was a housewife or had been pregnant for a million years. She cracked me up and her honesty was refreshing. This book had some strong characters—even the side characters, because there was nothing minor about them—and an amazing plot. Bailey was sometimes hard to like because of her obsession with Lake North, the wealthier half of the community, and the people there. She was willing to give a jerk the time of day just because of where he came from but not someone who was clearly into her. Throughout I wanted her to

The Rest of the Story

snap out of it because besides that she was a strong character who became good friends with Emma. I adored Gordon, Mimi, Oxford, Jack, Nana, Tracy, Matthew, Ryan, Bridget, April, Taylor, and Vincent. The characters made this story feel so real and I loved the family dynamic.

I come from a big, close-knit family so it's always nice to see this dynamic in stories. Dessen did a good job of showing how chaotic being in a big family could be. I loved the morning scenes when everyone was waking up and getting ready for work and the day. I could relate to those scenes perfectly. This story delved into more than just family but the importance of knowing where you came from. Emma grew up not knowing much about North Lake, her mother's family, or really her mother's childhood. Once she made it to North Lake, stories started coming out that helped Emma understand her mother and her mother's addictions more. By knowing her past and getting to know her family better, Emma was able to feel more comfortable in her own skin and her quirks weren't as pronounced. She felt better about herself and seeing her journey to get the rest of the story was inspiring and I loved that aspect of this story.

The Rest of the Story was an endearing story and the perfect read to kick off summer. It was a powerful story about a girl who needed to learn the rest of her story to find out where she belonged. This was another top read for me this year and really pulls on the heartstrings! ...more

The Rest Of The Story Paul Harvey

Aw, loved this. Classic Dessen featuring some of her most beloved and familiar themes and a new setting - if you want my complete break-down, check out my review here on [Jen Ryland Reviews!](#)

Thanks to the publisher for providing an advance copy for review!

Read more of my reviews on [JenRyland.com!](#) Check out my [Bookstagram!](#)

It's always a good idea to read one of Sarah Dessen's books. They always bring a smile to my face and make me feel like everything will be okay.

One of the things Dessen excels in is writing about different family dynamics. I kind of wish we got to find out more about the family members because I was more invested into that storyline. Romance was...you know...predictable.