



The Fix

Natasha Sinel

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One conversation is all it takes to break a world wide open.

Seventeen-year-old Macy Lyons has been through something no one should ever have to experience. And she's dealt with it entirely alone.

On the outside, she's got it pretty good. Her family's well-off, she's dating the cute boy next door, she has plenty of friends, and although she long ago wrote her mother off as a superficial gym rat, she's thankful to have allies in her loving, laid-back dad and her younger brother.

But a conversation with a boy at a party one night shakes Macy out of the carefully maintained complacency that has defined her life so far. The boy is Sebastian Ruiz, a recovering addict who recognizes that Macy is hardened by dark secrets. And as Macy falls for Sebastian, she realizes that, while revealing her secret could ruin her seemingly perfect family, keeping silent might just destroy her.

The Fix follows two good-hearted teenagers coming to terms with the cards they were dealt. It's also about the fixes we rely on to cope with our most shameful secrets and the hope and fear that comes with meeting someone who challenges us to come clean.

The Fix Details

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Author : Natasha Sinel

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From Reader Review The Fix for online ebook

La La - Everyone's Crazy Aunt says

4.5 Stars on my blog. I accidentally requested this title on Edelweiss thinking it was The Fixer, and I am extremely happy I did! This book dealt with several sensitive issues that affect many young adults, and did it in a realistic way. And in answer to several of the bad reviews I saw here on Goodreads, this book IS NOT ABOUT CHEATING! THERE WAS NO CHEATING IN THIS STORY, and if you think there was, you didn't read the entire book. I liked it because it had examples of several "types" of families with different dynamics. The scenes dealing with the issues were not overly-dramatized for shock effect, like I have seen in many of the current issue related YA Contemporaries. I would not recommend this for readers under 15 years of age. Up until nearly the last section of the book I was thinking, wow, finally a book that deals with teenage sexual matters in a non-explicit way, so 13 and 14 year olds can read it, but then there was one scene that was pretty explicit in its description, and that younger audience thought went out the window for me. The reason this is being downgraded to a 4.5 on my blog is that the MC and her best friend used the terms "whore" and "slut" in a casual conversational way several times during the story. The derogatory terms were not being used as a "growth" platforms, so that was a big no no for me, and it is pretty much frowned upon in YA Contemporary now. I was approved for this review book via Edelweiss in return for an honest review. I will be doing a mildly spoilery review on my blog and will add the link when it is posted.

Peach says

To think I spent three days on this.

Well, *okay*, it wasn't all terrible. I don't wanna be a Debbie Downer, but **God**. I don't know where to begin on this one.

Our MC, Macy Lyons, is at a party one evening with her friends and boyfriend when she bumps into the very-mysterious Sebastian Ruiz. They strike up what feels like an hour-long conversation, which I assumed the author was trying to make philosophical and John Green-esque, but it only came off as two stoned teenagers at a midnight rager, raving about planets.

A few days after the party, Macy is still thinking about Sebastian, still enamored by their perfect conversation, until she hears he's in the hospital. The psych ward, to be exact. She tries to visit him, but only those pre-registered can visit. Flash-forward through some unnecessary bits, Macy has her ticket in, and although she met Sebastian once, she's off to visit him in the psych unit.

AND HE WAS CRAZAAAAAAAY. (Kidding.)

But here's the thing about Sebastian. He is so *judgmental*. He's, as we know, in the psych unit but he just blatantly *snots* on the people there, like he's better than them. He's like, "My roommate is crazy. That girl likes to water the plants, even though they're fake. What a nut." Like, who are you? He tried to commit suicide, but when Macy comes in, he's all lounging around in his joggers like he's too cool for society.

Another worthy mention here, he'd get all snappy with Macy for no reason, but she was too dumb to stick up for herself. (view spoiler) Oh, and he'd constantly try to stick his nose into Macy's past trauma with the oh-

so-comforting, "Tell me. Tell me. Tell me."

To put it simple, Macy is trash. Sorry, but she is. Although, I did feel touches of sympathy for her (view spoiler) She has no real redeeming qualities. Before her boyfriend, Chris, she pounced on every other boy, had it out for her mother for absolutely no reason, and continuously stomped on her boyfriend to hangout with Sebastian. (Note: Her boyfriend, Chris, is actually a real sweetheart, so why one would choose a Twix over a Godiva truffle is beyond me.)

The only decent people in this story were the side-characters: Macy's best friend, Rebecca, who truly bend over backwards for her, Macy's mother, Macy's brother, Gavin, and his awkward crush, Eliza. If not for them, this story would be 100% bland.

Would not read again. Would probably not recommend either. A similar read is Fault Line, though, and for the most part, it's pretty well-written. Check it out if you like.

Shannon (aka The Tale Temptress) says

This book took me a little by surprise. First of all, I liked the main character, Macy, very much, despite the fact that she appeared to be a tad difficult with her mother. But much later in the story, you find out why. I'm getting ahead of myself though.

I thought this was going to be a somewhat serious but cute book, but as soon as I met Sebastian, I realized this wasn't going to be quite what I was expecting. As the story progressed though, I was great with that, because it ended up being so much more, and having so much more depth than what I thought it would have. Sebastian was a great character, one with real flaws, real fears, real problems, and watching him struggle through those things made me like him so much as a character.

Sebastian's issues served two purposes for me as I read this book. First, it allowed me to get to know Macy really well. No, I meant to say that. His issues are what cause Macy's true spirit to emerge, Second, it brought things out of her that the reader had no idea were there. It uncovered an event you never suspected she'd been through. Watching her work through these things was heartbreaking, because she had to be convinced of what I, the reader, already knew.

The story itself was wonderfully written, and the sensitive issues portrayed in the story were handled so well. I thought the author did an amazing job juggling these things and treating them with the sensitivity they deserved. It was a skillful bit of writing that Macy's character came across so well, despite the fact that she does things without knowing why she does them because she has yet to admit, even to herself, what would cause her to act the way she does.

Again, amazing writing, a truly sensitive, poignant story, with a sweet but serious romance. Great book.

Lekeisha The Booknerd says

review to come

Jill MacKenzie says

I was lucky enough to get to read the ARC of this book...and I LOVED it!

And I have to say, while I didn't know exactly where Ms. Sinel was taking us from the initial pages of THE FIX, I'm so glad I went there with her anyway. Macy's journey was one I'll never forget--I cried with her, screamed at her parents with her, and longed for the one person who just might understand the pain she'd been through, all with her. But it wasn't just Macy I fell in love with through every page turned. All of the characters in this book were beautifully drawn and real and important to me, long after I finished reading it. A definite must for anyone who loves heartfelt stories told with ease and grace.

Charlotte Huang says

Loved this emotional story about honesty and connection. Macy is a complicated, sometimes prickly, yet inherently likeable character with a chip on her shoulder and problems to confront. She has much to sort out with family, friends and love and I rooted for her to succeed and find happiness on each of those levels. This is great recommendation for lovers of darker contemporary YA.

Kate Ormand says

With an honest but gentle approach into Macy's world, THE FIX is emotional at times, heart-warming and witty at others, and very well written with a strong voice. I was captivated by the novel.

Ann Jacobus says

THE FIX by Natasha Sinel is a gutsy and honest story of 17 year-old Macy who must come to terms with secrets about her past, her present, and her future with a young recovering addict who has secrets of his own. Compelling, heartbreaking--in the best way possible, and ultimately triumphant, it's an un-put-down-able read!

Sarah says

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

“He’s just a friend.”

“I don’t believe you.”

This was an interesting story about a girl with something bad hiding in her past.

Macy was a bit of a difficult character to really understand, and I found her behaviour a bit unusual. Sleeping around, sleeping with boys who are on a break from their girlfriend, thinking about kissing another boy when you have a boyfriend; these were all things that were all a bit off for me.

The storyline in this was about Macy and the way she fell in love with Sebastian whilst she had a boyfriend. There was a bit of cheating, emotional at first admittedly, but cheating all the same. There was also the question of why Macy behaved the way she did, and what had happened to her as a child to cause her to act that way, but this was put on a bit of a back-burner for 90% of the book, leaving you wondering what the heck happened?!

The ending to this was good, and I was glad that we finally found out what had happened, and why it had affected Macy the way it had.

7 out of 10

Inah (The Bibliophile Confessions) says

The Fix was a dark story. It's very enlightening and interesting. It's about Macy Lyons, a smart and interesting girl, who felt a deep connection with Sebastian Ruiz.

It was nice to see each character's story unfold. Each of them having difficulties and trying to face them with each other's support. The characters were really dynamic and solid. I could feel every emotion from the pages. Also, the book featured diverse characters.

I guess what has drawn me into spending the whole day finishing this book was the fact that it dealt with mental illnesses and sexual abuse. Like I said earlier, it was dark but very enlightening.

This isn't my first time reading YA novels with such topics but it always makes me feel good reading books like this one especially if the characters turn out to be stronger than ever. It's really great to see diverse topics in YA novels because I know they need to be explored and make people raise their awareness when it comes to issues like these.

Abbie says

(I received a copy from Edelweiss, In exchange for an honest review.)

Macy and Sebastian were both okay characters, and I felt sorry for them at points, but I didn't love them.

There wasn't anything awfully wrong with this book, it just felt way too slow for me, which made the story drag. It felt longer than what it was because of it, and when I got to the end I was quite relieved.

Overall, Not awful, but not very enjoyable for me.

Randy says

Loved this one. A painful story beautifully told.

Penni Jones says

The teen years are a difficult time, but even more so when dealing with trauma that has been pushed aside and ignored for way too long. Through Macy's story, Sinel reminds us that everyone is dealing with something (though not always to such a serious degree), and the only way we can get through difficult times is to depend on each other. Healing is possible. I can't wait to see what this debut author does next.

Carol Riggs says

I don't usually read contemporary novels that deal with difficult issues like this, because it's too much like real life. But gritty, honest books like this need to be written, and books like this need to be read. It reveals the way oppressive secrets can cause guilt, detachment, sexual dysfunction, self-loathing, and escapism as a distorted way to cope (often involving sex, drugs, or alcohol). I hope this story will give both teens and adults the courage they need to confront truths in their pasts and be set on the road toward healing. I found the ending of the novel satisfying, how the plot threads were dealt with (particularly involving the characters Scott and Macy's mother).

Kim at Divergent Gryffindor says

The Fix is an in-between book for me. I felt like the parts that I liked and didn't like were equal, thus I'm giving it 3 stars. It's very hard for me to describe or write a review for this book, so I'm going to do a list review instead.

What I liked:

- The issues tackled - abuse, drugs, mental illness
- Rebecca - the ever-supportive friend
- The MC's relationship with Gavin, her little brother
- Darren and his observance

What I didn't like:

- The cheating, even though the main character doesn't own up to it.
- How things ended - her relationships with her parents and Chris were left out/hanging.
- The story was slow at times.

It's really hard to review this book. I didn't love it, but I didn't hate it either. I may or may not recommend

this book, since I think that this isn't for everyone. If you think that the synopsis is something that intrigues you, then definitely try this out.
