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The catastrophic history of you and me pdf

The Catastrophic History of You and Me on February 21, 2012 Pages: 375 Format: ARC Goodreads Dying of a broken heart is just the beginning.... Welcome to forever. Brie's life ends at sixteen: Her boyfriend tells her he doesn't love her, and the news breaks her heart—literally. But now that she's D&G (dead and gone), Brie is about to discover that love is way more complicated than she ever imagined. Back in Half Moon Bay, her family has begun to unravel. Her best friend has been keeping a secret about Jacob, the boy she loved and lost—and the truth behind his shattering betrayal. And then there's Patrick, Brie's mysterious new guide and resident Lost Soul . . . who just might hold the key to her forever after. With Patrick's help, Brie will have to pass through the five stages of grief before she's ready to move on. But how do you begin again, when your heart is still in pieces? Cover Review: This cover is really cool. After reading, I know what it symbolizes. Tagline: Dying of a broken heart is just the beginning. Main Character: Brie The Catastrophic History of You and Me is about a girl who died of a broken heart. The concept immediately drew me in—a broken heart? Really? I just had to see what happened. I immediately knew that it was going to be a love story. Basically, the book starts out with Brie after death. She knows she died, but she's wondering why she's still on Earth. After her funeral and everything, she ends up at a pizza parlor. At the pizza parlor, there's a guy who introduces himself as Patrick. Patrick helps Brie go through the five stages of grief. He even helps her get revenge on Jacob, the guy who broke her heart. The entire story centers around Brie as she learns more about herself, her friends, and the guys in her life. Will she accept death? Brie was such a great character. She didn't know as much about herself as she thought. I really loved how her memories were woven throughout the novel. Patrick was probably my favorite character from the book. Brie really liked him because of the way he dressed, which I thought was cute. I really love how Patrick always called Brie by cheese nicknames. Patrick was just an all-around great character, and I thought it was really cool how he was mysterious. We didn't find out much about him until towards the end. Jacob was a pretty great side character. In the beginning, I really didn't like him along with Brie. I mean, he broke her heart! As time went on, I grew to love him and I began to realize why he broke up with Brie, and I began to accept it just as Brie did. Can I just mention how good of a writer Jess Rothenberg is? I usually don't talk about writing in my reviews, though I feel the need to with this book. Her writing flowed wonderfully and I loved how funny she was. If I quoted all of my favorite quotes from this book, I'd be quoting just about the entire book. Just saying. This book was utterly amazing. One of the coolest things was each chapter was a song title. It's really clever. I also liked how the book was separated into sections by the 5 stages of grief. As we grew nearer towards acceptance, I was getting scared as to what was going to happen. I got so into the book and I was getting really nervous for Brie and Patrick! This book may seem like a light and fluffy read, but it's actually darker than you'd think. Towards about 3/4 of the way in, the story began going a little sinister, which I really liked. The mystery aspect of the story was really great, because I love mysteries. If I think about it, this book is a mixture of contemporary, fantasy, and paranormal. It's really cool. Plus there's flying powers! I'd definitely suggest checking this book out if you haven't, because it's definitely worth it. I flew through it in a matter of days. Recommended for fans of: If I Stay by Gayle Forman Life after death books Notable Quotes: "The trouble is, sometimes words are like arrows. Once you shoot them, there's no going back." "You can obsess and obsess over how things ended—what you did wrong or could have done differently—but there's not much of a point. It's not like it'll change anything. So really, why worry?" "War is sweet to those who have never fought." "No matter how much you think you know a person, no matter how pretty they act, or how popular they seem, you can never know what their lives are really like." "Love is no game. People cut their ears off over this stuff. People jump off the Eiffel Tower and sell all their possessions and move to Alaska to live with the grizzly bears, and then they get eaten and nobody hears them when they scream for help. That's right. Falling in love is pretty much the same thing as being eaten alive by a grizzly bear." "The problem is, there is absolutely nothing 'fun' about falling in love. Nope. Mostly it just makes you feel sick and crazy and anxious and nervous that it's going to end miserably and ruin your whole life. And guess what: that's what it does." "When you're in love, the world is brighter. Sunnier. The air smells flowerier, and your hair is silkier, and suddenly you find yourself smiling at babies and strangers and old couples walking down the beach holding hands." Have you read this novel? I'd love to hear your thoughts! Top reviews Most recent Top reviews Not so very long ago, Eragon-Shadeslayer, Dragon Rider, was nothing more than a poor farm boy, and his dragon, Saphira, only a blue stone in the forest. Now the fate of an entire civilization rests on their shoulders. Long months of training and battle have brought victories and hope, but they have also brought heartbreaking loss. And still, the real battle lies ahead: they must confront Galbatorix. When they do, they will have to be strong enough to defeat him. 5 out of 5 stars By Irina Chambers on 03-07-16 An addictively page-turning romance for fans of Before I Fall and The Fault in Our Stars Brie is the "biggest, cheesiest, sappiest romantic" who believes that everyone will find their perfect someone. So when Jacob, the love of Brie's life, tells her he doesn't love her anymore, the news breaks her heart—literally. But now that she's D&G (dead and gone), Brie revisits the living world to discover that her family has begun to unravel and her best friend has been keeping an intimate secret about her boyfriend. Somehow, Brie must handle all of this while navigating through the five steps of grief with the help of Patrick, her mysterious bomber-jacketed guide to the afterlife. But how is she supposed to face the Ever After with a broken heart and no one to call her own? "The debut is a fast, twisty, highly dramatic read about the turbulent nature of love."—Romantic Times "Rothenberg explores what happens in the afterlife when you aren't quite done with your life."—San Francisco Chronicle "The funniest, sweetest, most heartfelt, sigh-worthy and oh-so-romantic story I've ever read. You'll love it!"—Cynthia Leitich Smith, New York Times bestselling author of Eternal and Blessed When Brie's boyfriend, Jacob, dumps her, the 15-year-old girl literally dies of a broken heart. She's left floating above her family and friends, attempting to piece together the fragments of her brief life and how it all came to an end with the four devastating words, "I don't love you." With the help of Patrick, a cute and funny boy who died in the 1980s, Brie passes through the stages of grief. Along the way, she witnesses the people she loved mourn her (including her cardiac surgeon father, who frantically searches for a logical explanation for her death), revisits episodes from her past, and exacts ghostly revenge on her ex. Secondary characters can be slight, and elements of Rothenberg's premise are derivative of other titles featuring deceased teens in limbo. However, thanks to Brie's fresh and poignant narration, this first novel brings a welcome touch of irreverence to the larger themes of death, heartbreak, and forgiveness as Brie learns that sometimes there really are second chances. Ages 12-up. Agent: Stephen Barbara, Foundry Literary + Media. (Feb.) Publishers Weekly "Gorgeous, funny, and heartbreaking."—Lauren Oliver, New York Times bestselling author of Before I Fall "Blend[s] humor, uncertainty, anger, and hope. In her debut novel, Rothenberg supplies readers with an imaginative and intriguing vision of what might happen after death."—School Library Journal "Rothenberg blends genius in a fresh and heartwrenching way."—Booklist "This debut is a fast, twisty, highly dramatic read about the turbulent nature of love."—Romantic Times "Rothenberg explores what happens in the afterlife when you aren't quite done with your life."—San Francisco Chronicle "The funniest, sweetest, most heartfelt, sigh-worthy and oh-so-romantic story I've ever read. You'll love it!"—Cynthia Leitich Smith, New York Times bestselling author of Eternal and Blessed From the Publisher "Peppered with slang and pop culture references, Brie's voice is utterly adolescent, and her lively, flirtatious banter with Patrick...rivals that of any blockbuster rom-com." BCCB "Weaving significant contemporary issues into a romance flecked with humor, Rothenberg blends genres in a fresh and heartwrenching way. With echoes of Thornton Wilder's Our Town and Lauren Oliver's Before I Fall (2010), this is an emotional and thoughtful first novel with a twist." Booklist "Inventive, gorgeous, funny and yes...heartbreaking. You will absolutely love this book." Lauren Oliver Gr 9 Up—Shortly before her 16th birthday, Brie Eagan dies of a broken heart (literally) when her boyfriend, Jacob, tells her that he doesn't love her. What happens after her death, as narrated by Brie, carries readers to a complex afterlife full of surprises and challenges. At the Little Slice of Heaven pizzeria, aka "Forever," she meets charming Patrick, who gives her a handbook offering advice for dealing with eternity. Although Brie largely ignores the guide, she can't escape passing through the messy stages of grief (denial, anger, bargaining, sadness, and acceptance) as she returns to view her family and friends. When she learns that Jacob lied to her, she's determined to get revenge for what she originally interprets as his betrayal despite feeling powerless to set things right. Fortunately, she does figure out her relationship with Patrick in time to save him from spending eternity as a lost soul. Brie's recollections of life on Earth and her reactions to her new reality blend humor, uncertainty, anger, and hope. While traveling through various regions of the afterlife, the book's more valuable insights concern how people misinterpret the motives, actions, and emotions of others. In her debut novel, Rothenberg supplies readers with an imaginative and intriguing vision of what might happen after death.—Kathy Piehl, Minnesota State University, Mankato School Library Journal When Brie's heart literally breaks, killing her, she must go through the five stages of grief before moving on in the afterlife. Brie leaves behind a loving family, three best friends and a first boyfriend whose declaration that he didn't love her caused the bizarre heart event that offed her. Under the guidance of the annoying-but-hot Patrick, she explores the afterlife, haunts her ex-boyfriend and works her way through the D&G Handbook (D&G stands for "dead and gone"). It's Patrick who tells her that her first task in the afterlife is to work through those five classic stages: denial, anger, bargaining, sadness and acceptance. Brie is a likable-enough narrator, when she's not being vengeful. But Rothenberg's afterlife is irritatingly undefined for one that comes complete with a handbook. Rules seem to be applied more for narrative convenience than any adherence to complete concept, and the twist that drives the climax, while satisfying in an It's A Wonderful Life kind of way, comes out of nowhere. Moreover, her progress through the stages of grief becomes muddled by her continued interactions with the living world. Yes, she's angry, but it's hard to tell whether she's angry at dying or at her ex-boyfriend. Gabrielle Zevin's Elsewhere (2005) stands out as far better treatment of a similar concept. Interesting idea, not-so-great execution. (Fiction. 13 & up) Kirkus Reviews Next book > (2012) A novel by Jess Rothenberg Brie's life ends at sixteen: Her boyfriend tells her he doesn't love her, and the news breaks her heart—literally. But now that she's in heaven, Brie is about to discover that love is way more complicated than she ever imagined. Back in Half Moon Bay, her family has begun to unravel. Her best friend knows a secret about Jacob, the boy she loved and lost—and the truth behind his shattering betrayal. And then there's Patrick, Brie's mysterious new guide and resident Lost Soul who's been D&G (dead and gone) much longer than she. And who just might hold the key to her forever after. With Patrick's help, Brie will have to pass through the five stages of grief before she's ready to move on, but how do you begin again, when your heart is still in pieces? Genre: Young Adult Fantasy Praise for this book "Gorgeous, funny and heartbreaking."—Lauren Oliver Used availability for Jessica Rothenberg's The Catastrophic History of You and Me This Book Wins. If this had been the book given to me as my first foray into contemporary YA -- and granted, it has supernatural elements, what with the MC being dead and all -- anyway, had this been my first contemporary read, it might have easily led me to decide that contemporaries were my favorite subgenre. Instead, I've shied away from most anything contemporary and consistently read paranormals with a heavy dose of romance to satisfy my cravings. This book may have changed all that. Don't think This Book Wins. If this had been the book given to me as my first foray into contemporary YA -- and granted, it has supernatural elements, what with the MC being dead and all -- anyway, had this been my first contemporary read, it might have easily led me to decide that contemporaries were my favorite subgenre. Instead, I've shied away from most anything contemporary and consistently read paranormals with a heavy dose of romance to satisfy my cravings. This book may have changed all that. Don't think that means that I'll forego supernatural stories in favor of lighter, fluffier reads. But I will give all contemporaries a second thought instead of immediately dismissing them due to their lack of imaginary beasties. The Catastrophic History of You & Me is not a book I'll soon forget. It's cute, funny, heart-breaking, sad, beautiful, honest, and a whole slew of other adjectives. Pretty much, I ran a full gamut of emotions while reading this novel. I teared up -- okay, bawled like a baby because I tend to be overly sentimental -- twice within the first two chapters alone. But I also laughed -- a lot -- throughout the book. And I swooned...oh, did I swoon. Basically, this book takes you through the five stages of grief (denial, anger, bargaining, sadness, and acceptance) as Brie deals with each of them after her death. And she's got a lost soul Patrick to help her through them. (Cue the swooning.) I absolutely adored the voice given to Brie. She's witty and sarcastic and well, adorable, even when she makes some questionable decisions. But honestly, who among us wouldn't take the opportunity to spy on our loved ones after we're gone? The story was one of redemption, of love lost and found again, and of understanding and compassion when others need it most. I thoroughly enjoyed the subtle hints placed throughout the story, and though I figured out what was really going on half-way through, I was still pleasantly surprised at how it came to fruition. It was slightly predictable without being obvious. Also, the chapters are titled after songs, some of them popular love songs, some of them corny songs from the 80s. And Brie herself is a big fan of 80s music. Because I really needed a reason to love her more. You want to know something else I've decided I like about contemporary novels? A lot of them are stand-alone novels. I love a good series as much as the next girl, but sometimes, you just want to finish a novel in one sitting and revel in that sense of accomplishment, in knowing how the story ends without having to wait for the next installment. So, there's another plus for this story...as if I needed another one. :) I will recommend this debut novel to everyone, and I mean everyone. And if there's any doubt as to why, see the first paragraph of this review again. It's not everyday that a novel can convert me to the lighter side of YA. And now, one of my favorite passages from the book. (Mind you, this is taken from the ARC I received and may not appear in the final version of the novel...but I'll be really sad to find out if it doesn't make the cut.) From pages 42 - 44: I crossed my arms and clenched my jaw, feeling my inner five-year-old beginning to act out. "I. Don't. Have. A. Pen." She pointed at my right hand. "Yes. You. Do." Before I could argue with her, I realized that actually, I did have a pen. Right in my hand, ready to go. I almost fell off my chair. How the hell did that get there? The weirdest part? I recognized it. No. Way. It was the exact same pen I'd had back in third grade. Back when I was an even bigger dork who got so excited I couldn't sleep before School Supply Shopping Day. The pen was white on top and sky blue on bottom, with six (six!) color options, depending on which button you pushed down. You could even press two buttons down at the same time and mix the colors. (I know.) To a third-grade bookworm who'd spent her entire summer practicing her signature in cursive, this pen was a complete and total thing of beauty. I'd left it in my desk one Friday afternoon, but when I looked for it the following Monday morning, it was gone. We're talking Real Life Elementary School Tragedy. But then, in a very suspicious turn of events, Chloe Lutz--a girl who wore her hair in pigtails every day, for god's sake--showed up with a similar (and by similar I mean identical) pen a few days later. Et tu, Chloe? I knew she took it. Emma, Sadie, and Tess knew she took it. But tattling wasn't an option because our teacher Mrs. Aden had a very harsh No-Tattling policy. I wanted to confront her at recess, but I figured that was a bad idea, considering a) she was a whole foot taller than me and b) she was a brown belt in karate. In the end, I spent the whole rest of that school year watching Chloe have the time of her life pushing my beloved color buttons. Red! No, blue! Oh, isn't this fun? Yes, Chloe Slutz, of course it's fun. That is obviously why I bought it. And now, all these years later, here I was in a grungy pizza parlor in Half Moon Bay, dead since Monday, and holding the very same World's Greatest Pen. SO weird. First, I had that pen! Second, I think that passage highlights how funny and normal Brie is, and it gives you a little insight into her character. Not a huge fan of the trailer, but here it is anyway: review can also be found at The Starry-Eyed Revue. ...more

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