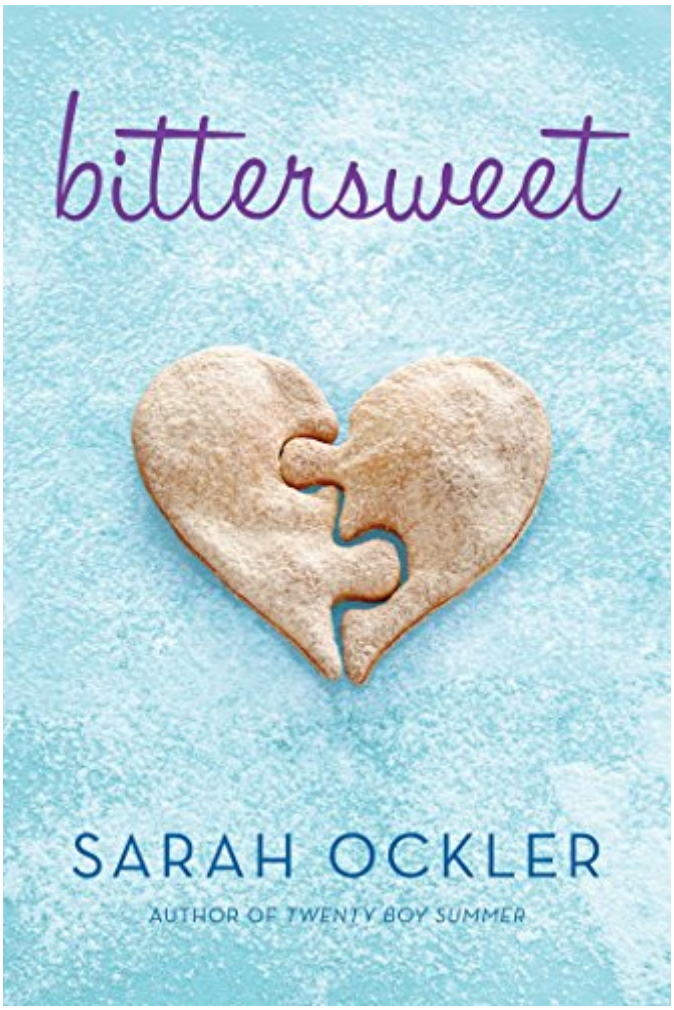
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Bittersweet



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Synopsis

From the author of Twenty Boy Summer, a teen pushes the limits to follow her dreamsÃ¢â ¬â •and learns thereÃ¢â ¬â„¢s a fine line between bitter and sweet....Once upon a time, Hudson knew exactly what her future looked like. Then a betrayal changed her life and knocked her dreams to the ground. Now sheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s a girl who doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t believe in second chances, a girl who stays under the radar by baking cupcakes at her momÃ¢â ¬â„¢s diner and obsessing over what might have been. Ã Â Ã Â Ã Â Ã Â So when things start looking up and she has another shot at her dreams, Hudson is equal parts hopeful and terrified. Of course, this is also the moment a cute, sweet guy walks into her lifeÃ¢â ¬â •and starts serving up some seriously mixed signals. SheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s got a lot on her plate, and for a girl whoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s been burned before, risking it all is easier said than done.Ã Â Ã Â Ã Â Ã Â ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s time for Hudson to ask herself what she really wants, and how much sheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s willing to sacrifice to get it. Because in a place where opportunities are fleeting, she knows this chance may very well be her last....

Book Information

File Size: 3081 KB

Print Length: 386 pages

Publisher: Simon Pulse; Reprint edition (January 3, 2012)

Publication Date: January 3, 2012

Language: English

ASIN: B0061PHRQS

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #757,102 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #21 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Winter Sports #437 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Sports #618 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Emotions & Feelings

Customer Reviews

What a sweet book combining my two loves: skating and cupcakes. Although there are minor mistakes regarding skating terminology, I was able to look past that and really enjoyed how everything came together in the end. I found this book because I really enjoyed Twenty Boy Summer by the same author. I was hooked from the beginning and as each chapter finished I found myself hungry for more and more until I finished. I was rooting for Hudson to make the right choices, and even when she didn't, she found a way to fix her mistakes and that made me love her more.

I'm a huge Sarah Ockler fangirl, and while Bittersweet wasn't as heartwrenching as her previous books, it was adorable and moving and a lot of fun.As someone who has never seen snow before, reading a book about ice skating and winter and snow and all of that fun wintery stuff was so awesome. I wanted to be in Watonka with Hudson and Bug and drinking hot chocolate and eating the weirdest yet most delicious sounding cupcakes ever.As for the characters in Bittersweet, I loved Hudson, but she did drive me crazy at some points. She would not make up her mind! Of course, you know, not that I'm able to make up my mind ever, but I did want to shake her and give her a little push in the right directions. But I loved her character growth throughout the book. I thought it was very well done and I was very happy with her decisions at the end.And the boy thing. There were a lot of awesome boys in this book, from the hockey team to Josh and Will, but my favourite was Bug. He was the cutest, most awesome little brother ever. He had the greatest quirks and I just wanted to make him my little brother. He rocked. The secondary characters in Bittersweet were all pretty amazing and three dimensional, but he was absolutely my favourite.And I have to make a quick mention of the chapter headings - they are CUPCAKE RECIPES. I seriously need to try to make every single one.Overall, I loved Bittersweet so much. There's romance and cupcakes and ice skating and it told a really great and moving story about family struggling in their own ways. If you love contemporaries, I definitely recommend Bittersweet by Sarah Ockler.

3.5 stars, would have been 4 stars but the technical figure skating mistakes were just too much.Bittersweet takes us into the life of Hudson Avery, former figure skater and current Cupcake Queen. She lives in a small town and is bursting to get out and explore the world. But what is she willing to sacrifice and who is she willing to push out of her life to make her dreams come true? And are they really her dreams or is she feeling nostalgic for her seemingly perfect past?My first Sarah Ockler book! I have Twenty Boy Summer on my bookshelf but haven't read it and after reading Bittersweet, I bought Fixing Delilah for my kindle. I love Sarah's writing style. It was like the words came off the pages and enveloped me. And oh my goodness, the description of the cupcakes at the

beginning of each chapter made me crave cupcakes like no other!Now on to the actual book part! :) I really really enjoyed getting to know Hudson. She was a little selfish, but hey, what 16 year old girl isn't? Am I right? There were times when I wanted to wring her neck and other times when I just felt so bad for her and wanted to tell everyone else to JUST BACK OFF and let her be a teenager! I couldn't imagine trying to juggle all of the things that she does. There's a bit of a love triangle, but I was okay with it. Mainly because I could see how it was a natural part of the plot. It didn't feel forced and worked well.Now. I will say that I had one huge huge huge huge huge problem with the book. The technical aspect of the figure skating was just so wrong. Soooo wrong. Ms. Ockler states in her Acknowledgement that there were probably some technical mistakes and she apologizes for them but still. To an untrained eye, I'm sure that the mistakes would have gone unnoticed - ignorance is bliss and all that jazz - but for this former figure skater (me), there were mistakes that I just could not believe! Some of the things mentioned are open for interpretation for instance, what order a skater would put her jumps in her program (a triple/triple would almost always be first..rarely second), but others are just frankly impossible - a double axel/double lutz combination is not even physically possible - it can not be done! This paragraph makes me sound like I didn't enjoy the book, but the truth is even with its blatant blunders staring me in the face, I actually really liked the book as a whole. If it weren't for the technical mistakes, I would have easily given this book 4 stars.What do you think? Am I being over-critical? I hope not.Additional: I just wanted to say that there were many, many things that Ms. Ockler got correct! I really liked that she gave Hudson a triple Flip combo. It's a hard combo but not impossible and it's gutsy (and was my favorite jump when I was a skater). I also liked the way that she described the way it felt to be on the ice. She got it spot on and was probably one of my favorite aspects of the book. It made me want to get back out there because I have truly missed it! And I was also totally loving the hockey boy-figure skater girl thing. It's so true. :)

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