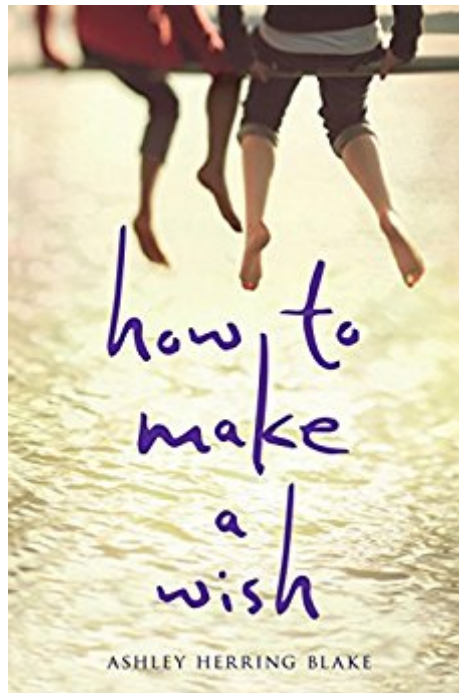




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How To Make A Wish



Synopsis

Grace, tough and wise, has nearly given up on wishes, thanks to a childhood spent with her unpredictable, larger-than-life mother. But this summer, Grace meets Eva, a girl who believes in dreams, despite her own difficult circumstances. One fateful evening, Eva climbs through a window in Grace's room, setting off a chain of stolen nights on the beach. When Eva tells Grace that she likes girls, Grace's world opens up and she begins to believe in happiness again. How to Make a Wish is an emotionally charged portrait of a mother and daughter's relationship and a heartfelt story about two girls who find each other at the exact right time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

To me, this book is perfect. I don't have a single complaint about this book because it was everything I needed. I spent the entire second half of the book near tears because of

how deeply I felt the story. *How to Make a Wish* is part romance, about Grace and Eva, two young women who fall in love and help support one another, but it's also an examination of family and mother-daughter relationships. Grace's mother, Maggie, is extremely neglectful and abusive (be aware of that going in), and while my own home life was never so awful, I deeply empathized with Grace's constant hopeless anger and the struggles with becoming an adult far too soon for your age. The examination of Grace's relationship with her mother is ugly and will fill you with emotions, but it's such a powerful story, and the mother-daughter bonds examined in this book really adds nuance and shape to Grace and Eva's relationship. The two girls have difficult problems and the relationship doesn't fix the emotional trauma they're struggling with. Instead, the two comfort and support each other in one of the healthiest relationships I've had the pleasure of reading in Young Adult. Every single character felt like a real, living and breathing person. From side characters, like Grace's best friend, Luca and his family, to Grace's mom's new boyfriend, to Grace's crummy ex-boyfriend, each character is well-written and in-depth, no one is reduced to empty placeholders for plot reasons. I was deeply in love with how real and vibrant the whole town of Cape Katie felt, and how everyone Grace interacted with had such vibrancy. The relationships are just as complex and alive: the focal mother-daughter relationship, Grace and Eva's budding romance, Grace and Luca's strong friendship, the book thrives with its characters and interactions. Ashley Herring Blake wrote the book I needed to read years ago. Grace's bisexuality is the most relatable I've ever read in any book, and Grace's hesitation to pursue women was explained in a way spot-on with my own insecurities and fears, even at this age. Eva, our love interest, is biracial and talks a bit about her difficulties in the book. Eva is incredibly well written and I know it's an identity many needed to see on the page. The book's emotional issues are handled excellently, the romance made me want to cry, it was so well done, and the emotional family component to the story definitely did make me cry. This book is perfect. If you have any interest, I definitely encourage you to pick it up and fall in love!

I could never do this book justice but it's a complex story between Grace and her mother, how their unhealthy relationship impacts Grace and all her other relationships, and it's also about Grace falling in love with Eva. The two girls find each other at just the right moment in their lives it seems

and find solace in each other. I cannot think of one single complaint or issue I had with this novel.

On the page bisexual characters is what I'm here for. Grace and her dealing with her tough family life and falling in love is what I'm here for. This book touched on the troubles of bad parenting and the parallels between Grace's mom and Luca's mom were astounding. Speaking of Luca, he was probably my favorite side character. This book was heartbreaking and magical.

I am sad it is over, I am sad we didn't learn more, I am sad we didn't find out if she made it, and I am sad the story didn't go on forever. Amazing read and so happy I found it. Now make a second one so we find out how everyone ends up. Pretty please!

I'm such a sucker for f/f YA books that don't focus primarily on the whole coming out aspect. Or rather, I love it when that's not the focal point in the book. I also love when we have a heaping dose of angst that's absolutely unrelated to coming out. Basically, *How to Make a Wish* hit every single thing on my arbitrary checklist of things I need in contemporary YA novels. I absolutely loved the relationships in this book. The relationship between Grace and Eva was so well-done and I loved that the author had them take the time to fall in love as opposed to just rushing the relationship. It was well-drawn out and incredibly sweet and heartwarming. I also really loved Grace and Luca's friendship. I'm also a sucker for a male-female friendship with no sexual undertones (overtones? Idk). They were just friends and weren't terribly angsty about it. But the thing I loved most in *How to Make a Wish* was the insanely angsty relationship between Grace and Maggie. Again, I'm such a sucker for familial angst. It makes everything more interesting (in books). Reading about Maggie got me so angry that I put the book down for a few moments in order to calm myself. I just wanted for Grace to finally call out her mom on all her BS. And I absolutely adored the ending for these two. I was worried that it would be wrapped up in a big, fake, everything is now perfect bow, but it wasn't. It rang true. Overall, I absolutely adored *How to Make a Wish*. I read this in mainly one sitting (my dog kept looking at me with his puppy eyes begging me to take him out of the house) and just didn't want to put it down. It's definitely going on my favorites list and something I whole-heartedly recommend to everyone.

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