

Everything, Everything

Nicola Yoon

Reviewed by Ziqing Kuang (14)

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

www.bethestaryouare.org

18-year-old Maddy is diagnosed with SCID, a disorder that causes her to stay indoors 34/7 and prevents her from interacting with other people other than her mother. This disease makes it impossible for her body to fight off infections, causing her to be more receptive to more sicknesses than other people. Because Maddy's brother and father died in a car accident earlier in her life, the only people she has ever interacted with since then were her mom, her nurse (Carla), and her nurse's daughter (Rosa). Everything changes after a new boy moves in next door, a teenage boy her age named Olly.

They start to bond through talking about their troubles by texting each other almost every single day. After realizing that she will never get to experience adventure and love just by staying in her house, Maddy decides to run away to Hawaii with Olly. Olly, with his own problems with his abusive father, is also eager to run away from home. After visiting a doctor for a checkup, it was confirmed that she never had SCID. Her mother just wanted her to stay at home, so she wouldn't lose Maddy the same way she lost her son and husband.

This novel is truly heart-breaking and moving. I cried, laughed, and smiled in so many different parts of the book. Everything was so raw, reading about Maddy's pain of having to stay inside all the time without any friends. It also depicts all the risks and all the doors that love can open up to. I would recommend this book to ages 14-17, and any readers who love romance books would love this book. I would probably not buy this book for myself or a friend. This book was beautiful though, and I would definitely read this book multiple times.

Recommended Titles:

The Sun Is Also A Star by Nicola Yoon

Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda by Becky Albertalli

Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell

Holding Up the Universe by Jennifer Niven

When We Collided by Emery Lord