

Anna And The French Kiss

Stephanie Perkins

Reviewed by: Alexis Shoss, 15

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

www.bethestaryouare.org

Anna and the French Kiss by Stephanie Perkins is about an American named Anna who for her senior year, has to go to an American boarding school in Paris. She does not want to go because she had everything she wanted back in Atlanta, like a best friend, a crush, and a good job. She is terrified about moving to Paris for the year. She has to make new friends and learn a new language which the only word she knows is “yes”. When she gets to Paris, she meets a boy named Etienne St. Clair who she has a major crush on. The only problem is, he has a girlfriend. This book is about Anna’s experiences moving to Paris and crushing on Etienne St. Clair.

Personally, I loved reading this book. The romance was good, and the relationships with the character were really good. Anna is a very realistic character who people can easily relate to. The author shows Anna’s flaws and makes her character three dimensional and more real than other characters. She also has a personality which people are drawn to. The love interest you can totally crush on, which is good for teenagers. The plot was really original and good, and it can draw in any reader. The plot was not repetitive and the reader did a very good job of keeping the climax at the perfect pace. You can't get bored of this book, because after every page you want to read more! Also, the setting is very different from other books. It's in Paris! People always want to visit Paris, and this book allows the reader to get to know the city of love. The characters in the book are really well thought out, and create amazing relationships with Anna. Anna and St. Clair’s relationship was sweet and they created a great connection. I loved the romance, because the author knew what she was talking about. The romance felt real, and a lot like what type of romance teenagers actually feel today.

What I didn't like about the book was how undiverse it was. It only showed the experiences of wealthy white teenagers in France. It was kinda sad how the author only featured white characters, and I felt the book needed more diversity. Another thing I did not like about this book was how stupid Anna was. She goes to France and is surprised that there are movie theaters. And then what does she do? She only watches American movies in FRANCE! She does not really understand France and she thinks that mimes are all over the city. She also does not eat in the cafeteria because she can't order in French. She could basically just point at the food and she would be fine. One last thing I could not stand in the book was the whole thing about cheating. St. Clair had a girlfriend, but he still crushed on Anna and even slept in her bed. I feel that he should at least have broken up with his girlfriend! This book sort of gives readers the idea that they can cheat if their partner is mean.

If someone wanted to buy this book for someone, I would recommend to buy it for a gift or for yourself. This book is 100% for teenagers and has the teenager romance story too. It does not contain any steamy adult romance which is perfect for teens. It does not have any cursing in it, which is good. But, it does have teenage romance, which I think is only Pg-13. This is a romance book, so I think it would work better with girls. Boys would totally be bored of the romance and the girl main character. I think the age group for this book would be between 14-16. The only reason someone would not read this book is if they don't like romance.

This book is the first in a trilogy. The second book is *Lola and the Boy Next Door*, and the third book is *Isla and the Happily Ever After*.

Recommended Titles:

Wish You Were Italian by Kristien Rae

Since You've Been Gone by Morgan Matson

The Summer I Turned Pretty by Jenny Han

Along for the Ride by Sarah Dessen