

Tweet Cute

Emma Lord

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This story follows two teens, Jack and Pepper, as they navigate high school challenges and deal with their family's inescapable expectations. Pepper is a record student, with perfect grades *and* a leadership position as the swim team captain. Barely managing all of her activities and pursuits, she also runs Big League Burger's Twitter account, allowing her mom's business to thrive, grow and stand out. Jack works in his family's small scale deli, the complete opposite of Big League's massive franchise. Living in his popular, perfect brother's shadow, he struggles to find a way to distinguish himself. But when Big League Burger steals his family's special grilled cheese recipe, the war between the two companies and competitors becomes personal.

A fresh, contemporary novel by Emma Lord, *Tweet Cute* is an irresistible tangle of life, love and choices. I absolutely loved the way the main characters are presented as typical stereotypes, when it couldn't be further from the truth! From the first page, the characters are vividly complex individuals, with different layers of emotions, dreams and goals. I was warmed from within as the two teens carefully circled each other, darting forward with spicy tweets and comments, while a deeper relationship knit imperceptibly between the two. I also loved how relevant and current this novel was, using modern day technology and references within the text.

One part of the book I didn't enjoy was the sheer amount of interaction between the two main characters. Both of them talk and meet in person, at school and on Twitter, and at times it felt overdone, instead of tension-filled. I think the family drama was also a bit unrealistic and abrupt at points, since it didn't contain enough context or backstory to really understand it. Lastly, a lot of the side characters were not very individual and seemed as though they were made from the same base idea or premise. For example, Pepper's mom and Jack's dad often blurred together in my memory because they were both so similar in their attributes and actions. Overall, *Tweet Cute* is a light, sweet and funny novel, but lacks some development. It would be best suited to readers age 12+.

Recommended Titles:

The Upside of Falling by Alex Light

You Deserve Each other by Sarah Hogle

What I like About You by Marisa Kanter

By the Book by Amanda Sellet

I Hate You, Fuller James by Kelly Anne Blount