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M Or F?



Synopsis

Frannie is desperate to get the attention of her crush, Jeffrey, but too shy to make a move. Frannie's gay best friend, Marcus, advises her to get the ball rolling by chatting with Jeffrey online, but Frannie won't type a word. Marcus takes over at the keyboard, and soon his plan is a success! But the more he chats, the more it seems Jeffrey is falling for Marcus, not Frannie. Whose romance is this, anyway?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

very good

this is the best book in the world! it is my absolute favorite book! sequel?? its just so awesome! great job!

Loved it always kept the reader interested and was so funny. I loved how u could always tell the character's personality

Very light hearted and fun to read. Definitely not what I expected from summer reading, but I actually enjoyed it!

Just really hard to get into, the book just didn't flow right for me or something.

Much younger story that did not hold my interest. Then again I'm a mature adult. It just wasn't a good choice for me.

On the Internet, you can be anyone you want to be --- and so can everyone else. You never know if the person tapping hilarious answers to your questions is the girl of your dreams --- or her gay best friend. In *M OR F?* by Lisa Papademetriou and Chris Tebbetts, Frannie has a crush. And for once it's on someone suitable: Jeffrey Osborne. Hot, friendly and socially responsible, he seems to be the man of her dreams. The only problem is that Frannie freezes up around him. She'll relax when she gets to know him better, right? In the meantime, there's the Internet. Frannie and Jeffrey chat almost every night, and the online conversation is intelligent, smooth and sizzling with chemistry. The fact that the person actually writing the words isn't Frannie at all, but her gay best friend Marcus --- well, that's just a minor detail, right? After all, Frannie is right in the room with Marcus when he's writing. Well, at least at first. When Marcus continues chatting to Jeffrey under Frannie's screen name, without telling anyone what he's doing, things get complicated. Who's falling in love with who? *M OR F?* is a fun, breezy, updated version of the classic *Cyrano de Bergerac* story. Told in alternating perspectives by Frannie and Marcus, the quick pace will keep the reader turning pages. Many scenes are laugh-out-loud hilarious. And just when you think you've figured out exactly what is going on, the story twists and turns and you have to scramble to keep up. Although both main characters are engaging, I found Marcus particularly well-drawn. This is not a coming-out story; Marcus is secure in his sexuality and neither angst-ridden nor persecuted for it. In fact, most of the important characters in the book are very supportive. But their high school isn't Utopia; there's a well-meaning but clueless faculty advisor for the Gay Students Association, for example, and a few homophobic classmates lurking in the halls. It's a realistic scenario that adds believability to the madcap antics that seem to follow both characters. Despite some slapstick, *M OR F?* relies heavily on witty conversation, both for its humor and to develop its characters --- and fortunately for the reader, the conversation works on many levels. Parts of the novel read like a segment from an episode of "Will and Grace," minus the sexual references. (The focus of *M or F?* is always on

friendship and light romance, and neither discussion nor action ever progresses beyond kissing.)Papademetriou and Tebbetts are careful to show the small details that make Frannie and Marcus's friendship meaningful. Ultimately, M OR F? is more about their relationship with each other and the test of that relationship. This is both the core of the book and its strength, and is one reason why readers might be happy to read it again and again. --- Reviewed by Paula Jolin

M or F? by Lisa Papademetriou and Chris Tebbetts defies the format of most typical high school romance stories. Like many, it combines a story of friendship with a story of romance. Frannie falls for an attractive guy that her best friend Marcus actually approves of. His name is Jeffrey Osborne and he's all too perfect: popular, smart, gorgeous, and sincere. Frannie even has the opportunity to speak to him online. Here's the twist, though: Frannie gets too queasy to talk to him by herself. So instead, her gay best friend does the talking for her. Eventually, while things are getting hot, Marcus gets out of control and starts chatting with Jeffrey without Frannie knowing. This tests Frannie and Marcus's friendship, and makes both of them struggle to learn which is stronger: friendship or love?It was a pleasure to read M or F? and I recently recommended it to friends of mine who are members of our school's GSA. Not being able relate to Frannie's struggle of deciding whether Jeffrey is falling for her or for her "brain twin," Marcus, shouldn't stop you from reading the book. No one I know escapes fights with friends over what type of relationship is most important. Organized into chapters from both Frannie and Marcus's perspectives, it is easy and enjoyable to hear both sides of the story for once. As your eyes latch onto the neon-colored cover, your natural paranoia and compassion will latch onto Frannie's mind in this realistic high school setting.Reviewed by Flamingnet Book Reviews[...]Preteen, teen, and young adult book reviews and recommendations.

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