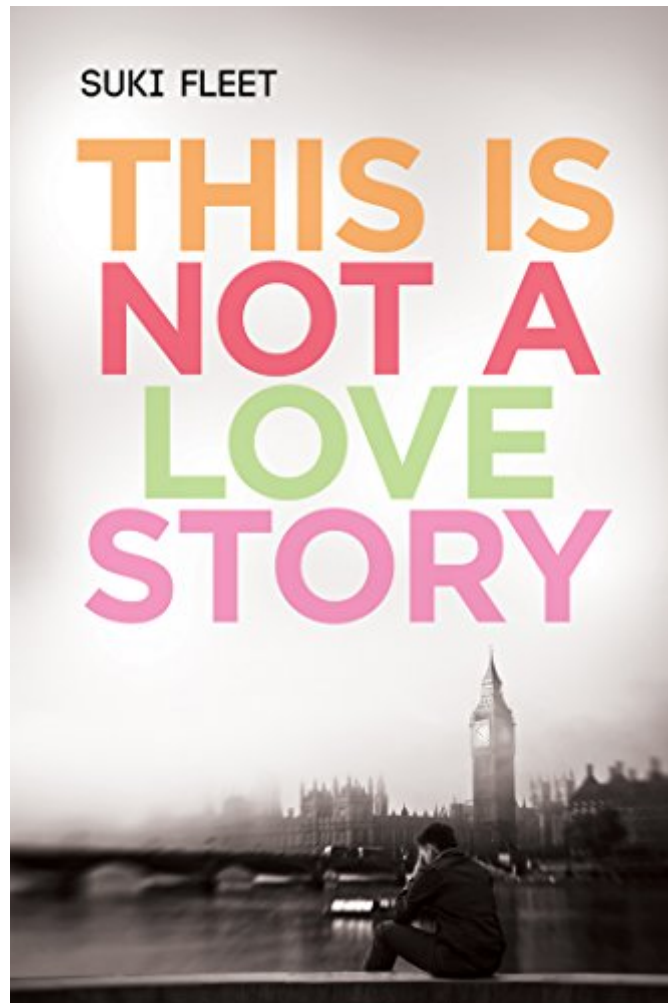




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This Is Not A Love Story (Love Story Universe Book 1)



Synopsis

A novel from the Love Story Universe When fifteen-year-old Romeo's mother leaves one day and doesn't return, he finds himself homeless and trying to survive on the streets. Mute and terrified, his silence makes him vulnerable, and one night he is beaten by a gang of other kids, only to be rescued by a boy who pledges to take care of him. Julian is barely two years older than Romeo. A runaway from an abusive home, he has had to make some difficult choices and sells himself on the street to survive. Taking care of Romeo changes him, gives him a purpose in life, gives him hope, and he tries to be strong and keep his troubles with drugs behind him. But living as they do is slowly destroying him, and he begins to doubt he can be strong enough. This is the story of their struggle to find a way off the streets and stay together at all costs. But when events threaten to tear them apart, it is Romeo who must find the strength within himself to help Julian (and not let their love story turn into a Shakespearean tragedy). 2015 Lambda Literary Award Finalist in LGBT Children's/Young Adult

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Let me start by saying that I completely LOVE this book and the reason of the 4 star rating is because of the end (further explanation below). I only give 5 star ratings when I enjoy a book 100%...this one I enjoyed it like 97%. The story deals with several homeless boys that have to find a way to survive not every day, but every hour! so be prepared to have your heart rip out of your chest by some of the things that happens to our dear main characters such as sexual and drug abuse. The story is packed with fluent writing, good plot but most importantly: well-thought out and endearing characters with a depth of emotions that will make you wish you could have them in front of you and help them out! The characters were my favorite part in this book. Their feelings and suffering felt so real I completely lost myself in them and forgot the world around me. The author has such a magical way to describe emotions and situations that I will definitely be checking out all of her other works (I hope she continues writing!) because this is the reason why I love to read...when you feel like the characters are real and your heart is alive to their actions. I connected with Remee a lot (his name is Romeo but Julian calls him like that), the story was told by his POV and I was able to feel everything he felt. Julian, the very kind guy who helps Remee and takes care of him when Remee has no one else, won my heart and also broke it...it was broken not by him but by the circumstances that drove him to despair...I just wished I could have him in front of me and hug him....protect him from all the harm and unfairness life was throwing at him but then I remembered that Remee was in the picture and I thought "there is hope in this life". Although, the title says "this is not a love story", it turns out to be a beautiful love story. A love so strong and full of hope that will make you keep living in despite of the horrible way life has, is and probably will keep on treating you. In the case of Julian and Remee, even though they were on the streets and didn't have possessions, they did have each other and that was more valuable than any gold. When one was weak, the other one was there to support him and continue walking. I fell in love with them. I felt sad when they were forced to be apart and happy when they found each other again. The secondary characters were good, I liked Pasha and Crash...I said that I connected with Remee which means that I felt like I was Remee...for example: when his heart cried out for Julian, same thing happened to me. So, it is no wonder that Crash also took a piece of my heart (while Julian had the rest) like it happened to Remee...Crash was so gentle and lovely that if it wasn't for Julian, I bet that Remee would have fallen in love with him. Now, the reason of the 4 stars is because the ending felt...incomplete, to say the least. I just wasn't happy the way it turned out after all the things our characters went through, I wish I could have seen more of Julian's recovery and a little bit of their time when they finally found a place to call home. Throughout the story I had a flame burning deep

in my heart but the flame went out little by little at the end until I was left like "it's done?". A good book nonetheless and highly recommended!!

Suki Fleet has turned me into a blubbering, emotional basket case after reading her new novel, *This Is Not A Love Story*. Well, this is definitely not your typical love story. But, it is a love story. It is a beautifully written story about two homeless boys, Julian and Romeo (Remee) and their struggles trying to survive at all cost the harsh unforgiving streets of London. Remee is fifteen years old and mute. His life is turned upside down on day when his mother left the house and she never returned. Remee, devastated, was left all alone to care for himself. He was now homeless and had no other options but to turn to the streets. Remee knew he was vulnerable alone on the streets. A gang of homeless thugs, aware of his vulnerability assaults Remee. Julian, a homeless boy only a few years older than Remee, witnesses the assault and rescues him from his attackers. From that point on the two were inseparable. Julian became the protector, trying to spare Remee from all the ugliness that comes with being homeless. And Remee needs and craves Julian's protection. At some point the two become separated. Remee, knowing Julian's dark past, fears the worst and will stop at nothing to find Julian and bring him back to him. This is the story of two strong and determined boys trying to stay alive and together at whatever cost. This is an absolute GREAT must read book! Suki Fleet has left nothing to the imagination. This is a difficult story to read just due the dark and heart-wrenching storyline. The homeless and the unwanted have become taboo. We want to believe they don't exist and that they are undeserving of our help. I know this was a fictional story, but I couldn't help but imagine and feel the boy's heartaches and pains. This is due to the excellent writing skills of Ms. Fleet's. This was a novel that is full of never-ending heartache from start to finish..... If you can't feel the pain from these two boys.....well you are nobody I care to meet! I could not stop reading until I found out if there is a HEA ending. I'm not telling..... Read the book to find out!! I must acknowledge that I was given the opportunity to receive a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. I can honestly tell you that I enjoyed the novel so much I purchased both the paperback AND another ebook format copy for my kindle before I even finished the novel! So yes ... I honestly loved this book. If I had anything uncomplimentary to say, it would be that there was just SO MUCH painful, tear-jerking heartache and angst that I almost couldn't take it! But, I really needed to read this book. FIVE STARS FROM ME ***** Thanks Suki Fleet for this great novel. There has to be more to come... Please.

Once in a great while comes a book that just knocks you to your knees. Usually I find fault with

books - the plot, the characters, the dialogue, etc., but not this book. Even how it starts is charming "There's this boy (isn't there always?)...." The story of Remee and Julian is told almost poetically but not in such a way that detracts from the book, just enhances it with the author's ability to weave beauty into a heart wrenching story. Suki Fleet is a very talented writer and I'm looking forward to every new book from her. Remee and Julian are beautifully written and you can't help but think they are truly flesh and blood. Remee jumps off the pages - his frank comments, his honesty, his sly sense of humor, his trying to figure things out and when he's reached the end of his endurance there is Julian, his port in a storm. Why does Suki Fleet remind me of Harper Lee? Like I said I think its because she has the talent to capture the innocence of youth even tho the world has tried to destroy it, crush it from these boys. This book will satisfy you on so many levels - more people really need to read it. Its frank, it doesn't pull punches, its sensual, its for adults. There is a great, almost painful sweetness to Remee's and Julian's love for each other - but its never sappy, trite or unreal - it's breathtaking.

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