

A WISHING SHELF BOOK REVIEW

20th October 2020

TITLE: Everything All At Once

AUTHOR: Ivy Cayden

Star Rating: 5

CATCHY QUOTE

'A light, fun, fantastically gripping story of young love, music and the ups and terrible downs of high school. Highly recommended!' A 'Wishing Shelf' Book Review

REVIEW

Every All At Once is, in every way, a bit of a BLAST! The author so knows her readers, offering them an 'easy to get a long with' protagonist, an array of teenager-related dilemmas they can relate to, and a musical backdrop that's not gimmicky but adds to the story.

So, what's it all about? In a nutshell, the story follows Kila and the ups and downs of teenage life. There's lots of what you would expect in a book in this genre; there's the 'intensity' of first love, the first kiss, wanting what you can't have and having what you don't want. Is it predictable? No, it's not. The author's simply giving the teenager what they want.

In terms of writing style, it's also very good. It's light, not overly descriptive, and the pacing is excellent. This is not a plot-driven story; it's

character-driven. In this book, the characters are the jam which holds everything together. Thankfully, the author knows her characters, very, very well; this shows in the consistent and very individual way they act.

There is a lot of self-discovery going on in this story, particularly for Kila. And, I must say, it is very well-written. It's insightful too, and very much helps the reader to not only understand Kila, but also start to care about what happens to her. The author also understands how important 'speech' is to not only develop the characters, but also the plot.

So, who's this book for? I'm tempted to say teenage girls will enjoy it the most. Say, 13 - 15 year olds. I think, if you enjoyed books such as Twilight - although you won't find a vampire in this book - then this is for you. Also, if you love music, this book is a bit of a gem. I loved the idea of listening to a specific song as you enjoy a specific part of a chapter. I had a go and, honestly, it adds mood/atmosphere to the story. How fab is that!?

Enjoy!

A 'Wishing Shelf' Book Review

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