

P.S. I Still Love Laura Jean Covey and Her Antics





P.S. I Still Love You by Jenny Han is the sequel to her widely acclaimed *To All The Boys I've Loved Before*. This is one of those books that you can curl up with, expect one thing, and then come out with a different, yet completely wonderful resolution. Jenny Han not only keeps this story refreshing and new, but it also holds true as a faithful sequel to her earlier novel.

*“Laura Jean and Peter will not
break each others hearts”*

P.S. I Still Love You starts out exactly where *To All The Boys I've Loved Before* ended. Peter Kavinsky and Laura Jean Covey have hit a rift in their relationship. However, they do seem to work out their problems. It seems to be sunshine and rainbows. In Laura Jean fashion, the two decide to make a contract to make sure that they realize how their relationship will work.

Laura Jean and Peter's New Contract

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- Peter will not be more than five minutes late
 - Laura Jean will not make Peter do crafts of any kind
 - Peter doesn't have to call Laura Jean before he goes to bed at night, but he can if he feels like it
 - Laura Jean will only go to parties if she feels like it
 - Peter will give Laura Jean rides whenever she wants
 - Laura Jean and Peter will always tell each other the truth
 - Laura Jean and Peter will not break each others hearts
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However, new challenges arise in their relationship. From ex girlfriends, one of the old recipients of a letter showing back up, and even a video leaked online of their night in the hot tub, Peter and Laura Jean's relationship is on the rocks and possibly doomed. Laura Jean is now faced with the choice between her boyfriend who seems a little too buddy-buddy with his ex girlfriend/Laura Jean's ex best bud and the boy who she's loved since he landed a kind hand in the eighth grade. Add the backlash from the video, her father possibly dating again, and a grueling game of Assassin, Laura Jean has a lot on her plate.

You can find *P.S. I Still Love You* Here!:

[http://www.riversendbookstore.com/
book/9781442426733](http://www.riversendbookstore.com/book/9781442426733)

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“Society is far too caught up in shaming a woman for enjoying sex, and applauding a man.”

I was not expecting some of the subject matter that was addressed in this book. However, I am the person who was surprised when the last book had the hot tub scene, which was completely innocent, but was a little hot and heavy for your usual YA fair. I was very happy that Jenny Han decided to make this sequel a little more hearty than the book before. This installment felt more like real teenager problems rather than a cutesy rom-com in book form. Don't get me wrong, this book has some absolutely adorable moments that make you want to just jump into the book and start going out with these amazing boys, but it had some genuinely heartwarming moments.

The whole video debacle was done very well. Laura Jean, someone who we have seen wears her heart on her sleeve, acted like any young girl who had an intimate moment leaked online: she was worried about her future. Laura Jean's older sister, Margot really resonated with today's problem of "slut shaming" and how devastating it is. "*Society is far too caught up in shaming a woman for enjoying sex, and applauding a man. I mean, all of the comments about how Laura Jean is a slut, but nobody's saying anything about Peter, and he's right there with her. It's a ridiculous double standard.*" I thought Jenny Han addressed this so well. The panic, the double standards, the redemption, and even the uncovering of who did it and maybe even laughing about it was all very realistic. To say I was surprised that this was a subject in a sequel to the cutest book I read last year is the world's biggest understatement. However, I'm glad it was used. It's a very important societal issue that still is happening and needs to be addressed.



“As Kitty gets older, I see that she is far more like Margot than me.”

Another aspect I loved from this book, was the relationship of the Covey sisters. Margot, Laura Jean, and Kathrine "Kitty" Covey is the most adorable relationship between fiction sisters that I have ever seen. Though, Margot isn't in as much of the book as Kitty is, I'm glad she was included. She added that sisterly guidance that helped Laura Jean along in her problems while also being a girl with her own problems.



“No, never mind. Kitty is all her own.”

Kitty was the highlight of all the "side characters" for me. As the kids like to say today, she is my spirit animal. Her funny dialogue, the way she talked like she was a mobster from 1930 instead of a ten year old in 2016, to the way she was trying to "Parent Trap" her dad made me fall in love with this already amazing character. Her line about how she wanted to put food coloring on her father's heart pancakes to make them look like they were bleeding was one of my favorites. The scenes with her are not only charming, but some are very touching. If you haven't read it, I won't say much, but the birthday scene will make your heart grow two sizes bigger. Kitty added innocence to a book that addresses some more serious problems.



“Perhaps I am
in love with
love! That
doesn’t seem
like such a bad
way to be.”

The one thing I didn’t like in this installment of the *To All the Boys* series is how Peter seemed to change drastically in this novel. Unfortunately, Peter is still hanging out with his ex girlfriend. The lack of communication and teenage emotions almost made me throw the book out of the window. Peter and Laura suffered hard from lack of communication skills and jumping to conclusions extremely fast. Though, I did have to remind myself that they were teenagers. Also, Peter seemed to get very possessive and became kind of an all around jerk. I hate to say it but I was wishing for a different ending.

The character of Genevieve was also problematic, but intentionally. I wanted something to happen, anything in fact, but Gen was just still same old Gen. She seemed to be the same old ex best friend who is not exactly redeemable. It was just a subplot I could have done without. Peter hanging out with Genevieve also was a little sketchy and was the main reason Peter seemed so reprehensible during certain parts of the novel. I just wished there would be some resolution to this problem.

All in all, I thought this was an amazing novel. When I could get past the teenage dramatics, the book had so many heartwarming moments and such good messages, that I couldn’t help but love it. Even if you cannot get past the problems with the romance, the scenes with the Covey family and at the nursing home were so enchanting that I’m pretty sure everyone would love it. The family was my favorite part of this novel. The relationships between the sisters and the dad was so adorable, Kitty being a particular highlight, that the book could have just been about them. However, the romance did have its highlights and really added to the book.

I devoured this book in less than five hours and I had to force myself to put it down. This book was truly a breath of fresh air and something that I will be thinking about for a while. With that, I’ll end with my favorite quote :

“There’s a Korean word my grandma taught me. It’s called jung. It’s the connection between two people that can’t be severed, even when love turns to hate. You still have those old feelings for them; you can’t ever completely shake them loose of you; you will always have tenderness in your heart for them.”



OVERVIEW

Three Word Review: Cute but serious.

Rating: ★★★★★

Recommended Age: 16 and Up

Recommend to a Bud?: YES!

Need to Read 1st Book?: Necessary

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Every project she works on is dedicated to her nephew, Parker, and her late aunt, Bonnie who both inspire her to work as hard as she can.