



Alexander
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REPORTER

I'll Meet You There

Heather Demitrios' book impresses reporter

Skylar is a typical small-town girl; she works at the Paradise Motel, the only motel for miles and lives in a trailer with her mom. Creek View isn't exactly the biggest town in California. She is planning on leaving Creek View to pursue her dream and start her year at art school in San Francisco.

Josh is a Marine who is back in town because he lost his leg in Afghanistan. Being in the Marines has made him a better man, but has also taken a part of him away and he has nightmares every night.

Skyilar and Josh have known each other since they were little, and now, Josh is a new man, and Sky starts to see something more in him. Then Sky's world falls apart. Her mom loses her job, they are dead broke and art school turns into a fantasy. A character-based plot that revolves around the small-

town setting, this beautiful story about new love, friends and hardships is a great light contemporary read for the summer.

Skyilar was a super cool person. I kind of was able to relate with her since I try not to run into trouble and do my best to make the right decisions, and so did Skyilar so it was cool to be able to connect with her. You could tell that she really cared about her mom even though she could be a real pain in the butt sometimes. She really valued her friends, too, and it was so nice seeing the closeness of her and Dylan and Chris and how they feel about moving away from each other. Josh was not my favorite person; I love how he is so dedicated to his passion, the Marines, and even though he lost his leg he is not giving up on his friends and his purpose. He made so stupid choices but he is so preoccupied by the war and

losing people he loved that you have feel bad for him at times.

I loved the setting in this story; I can see why Skyilar wants to get out and I could just picture it in my head very vividly. The Paradise Motel was one of the coolest places in a book I've read; I want to work there! It sounds awesome, being able to swim and hang out with your friends and have themed rooms. I just loved the setting. It literally played out like a movie in my head; Heather is so good at writing descriptively and you can visualize her books very well.

I really liked the story, and it was definitely not your typical boy meets girl="insta-love" story. This relationship didn't pop out of nowhere; it was well-formed, shocking at parts and enjoyable. It could be slow at times but I understand that contemporaries don't have things going

on every second of the story. The story was just so real and I loved Josh's POVs all throughout this—they were full of emotion and remorse and heartache. I love how they were a silent conversation between him and someone else (I won't say who because it's a spoiler) and you could feel his pain and sorrow. He is simply a cat treat, basically—crunchy on the outside and soft on the inside, if that makes any sense. I thought the plot was great, and not too fast or too slow, just right.

Overall, I'll Meet You There was a cute, adorable story with a vivid setting and relatable characters and lovely writing. The relationship wasn't rushed and the characters faced struggles were not easy too overcome. This heartfelt, touching story about Sky and Josh forming an unlikely relationship should go on your to-read list.