

Beach Read by Emily Henry

The contemporary romance novel "Beach Read" written by Emily Henry is about January Andrews, a passionate and talented romance novel writer.

Her life has been going quite well, she published novels that always included a happy ending, and she seemed to have no problems finding these love stories, since in her own life, everything also always had a happy ending until January's dad died and she found out that things weren't like she thought they were.

January finds out her dad had been having an affair and a whole other life apart from her and her mom.

To find out more about that life and why her dad and her mom, who apparently knew about this, kept it a secret, January moves into the house, her dad and his affair used to live in.

To make this even worse, her neighbour turns out to be her former rival and writer : Augustus Everett from college. They both need to write a book immediately, but they don't really feel that anything they've written recently is good enough, so they make a bet: They swap genres and write a book about what usually the other person would write about. Whose book is published first wins. Throughout the story, they arrange meetings to help each other with the research to their books. They start to get closer and fall in love with each other.

One of my favourite things about the book is that the male lead of the book (Gus) is also vulnerable and sensitive. He has a hard time accepting that someone loves him, since nobody has ever chosen him, and I like how, this part of the book fights against toxic masculinity and shows that not "only girls" have problems with that.

I love the way the author describes January's feelings towards her father, that she still loves him even though he did terrible things and deceived both her and her mother.

Shadi is January's best friend and her long-distance supporter. Shadi is presented as a positive character in the book, and you can tell that they are always there for each other. I enjoyed how Emily Henry describes the feelings of loss, grief, love, and confusion. All of the characters are well thought about, and their personalities and feelings are described incredibly well.

I can only recommend "Beach Read" to everyone who wants a light but beautiful book to read outside, in the summer, on the beach.