



Story of a Girl

By Sara Zarr

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Story of a Girl By Sara Zarr

Soon to be a Lifetime Movie!

I was thirteen when my dad caught me with Tommy Webber in the back of Tommy's Buick, parked next to the old Chart House down in Montara at eleven o'clock on a Tuesday night. Tommy was seventeen and the supposed friend of my brother, Darren.

I didn't love him.

I'm not sure I even liked him.

In a moment, Deanna Lambert's teenage life is changed forever. Struggling to overcome the lasting repercussions and the stifling role of "school slut," Deanna longs to escape a life defined by her past. With subtle grace, complicated wisdom, and striking emotion, *Story of a Girl* reminds us of our human capacity for resilience, epiphany, and redemption.

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Story of a Girl By Sara Zarr Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Grade 9 Up—When Deanna's father catches her having sex in a car when she is 13, her life is drastically changed. Two years later, he still can't look her in the eye, and though Tommy is the only boy she's been with, she is branded the school slut. Her entire family watches her as though she is likely to sleep with anyone she sees, and Tommy still smirks at and torments her when she sees him. Her two best friends have recently begun dating, and Deanna feels like an intruder. She tries to maintain a close relationship with her older brother, but Darren and his girlfriend are struggling as teenage parents. Deanna learns to protect herself by becoming outwardly tough, but feels her isolation acutely. Her only outlet is her journal in which she writes the story of an anonymous girl who has the same experiences and feelings that she does. Through this, readers see the potential that Deanna cannot identify in herself. This is a heartbreaking look at how a teenager can be defined by one mistake, and how it shapes her sense of self-worth. This is realistic fiction at its best. Zarr's storytelling is excellent; Deanna's reactions to the painful things said to her will resonate with any reader who has felt like an outsider. It is an emotionally charged story, with language appropriate to the intensity of the feelings. *Story of a Girl* is recommended for both teens and the adults who live and work with them.—*Stephanie L. Petruso, Anne Arundel County Public Library, Odenton, MD*

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Deanna was 13 when her father caught her and 17-year-old Tommy having sex. Three years later, she is still struggling with the repercussions: how Tommy jokingly made her into the school slut; how the story became legend in her small town; how her father looked at her then--and now doesn't look at her at all. Her brother, Darren, has mistakes to handle, too: he lives with his girlfriend and their baby in his parents' basement. And while Deanna's mother seems numb, her father is perpetually angry and depressed. Meanwhile, in a misguided search for love brought on by the confusion of seeing Tommy again, Deanna intentionally hurts her two closest friends. Although she's more aware than most how a single event can define a person, Deanna still struggles to gain insight into herself, her family, and her friends. When she finally does, she's able to create small but positive changes in her relationships with them all. Characters are well drawn, especially Deanna, whose complicated, deeply felt emotions turn the story. There are plenty of heartbreaking moments, too, including a poignant confrontation with Tommy. Though nothing is miraculously fixed by the close, everyone's perspective has changed for the better. This is a thoughtful, well-executed debut from an author who understands how to write for teens. *Krista Hutley*

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Review

"Sara Zarr's first novel tells an engrossing story with exquisitely drawn characters. *Story of a Girl* is the rarest mix: It's both impossible to put down and the kind of book that stays with you long after you've finished reading it."

?*John Green, author of The Fault in Our Stars and Looking for Alaska*

"This is a hell of a good book."

?*Chris Crutcher, author of Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes*

"Throws a sharp right hook at the assumptions people make about girls who have sex early."

?*E. Lockhart, author of The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks and The Boyfriend List*

"A heartfelt, realistic novel about being defined by one moment, one choice, and then having to reinvent who you are....An evocative, thoughtful read from a debut author to watch."

?Cynthia Leitich Smith, author of Jingle Dancer and Indian Shoes

* "Realistic fiction at its best. Zarr's storytelling is excellent....An emotionally charged story...recommended for both teens and the adults who live and work with them."

?School Library Journal (starred review)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Georgianna Menendez:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. As it is known to us that book is very important normally. The book *Story of a Girl* ended up being making you to know about other information and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The book *Story of a Girl* is not only giving you a lot more new information but also to become your friend when you really feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship with the book *Story of a Girl*. You never experience lose out for everything if you read some books.

Eva Oleary:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always try and and must have the extra time or they will get lot of stress from both daily life and work. So , once we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not only a robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative with spending your spare time, often the book you have read is usually *Story of a Girl*.

John Yates:

This *Story of a Girl* is great reserve for you because the content that is full of information for you who all always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it details accurately using great manage word or we can point out no rambling sentences included. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole information in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but tough core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having *Story of a Girl* in your hand like getting the world in your arm, facts in it is not ridiculous 1. We can say that no book that offer you world throughout ten or fifteen minute right but this guide already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Hello Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt which?

Harold Esparza:

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