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On Edge (The Ice Skating Series #1)



Synopsis

After an intense ice skating camp in San Francisco, Madison Boone is excited to begin a new season with her best friend Hannah. But when Hannah's parents announce that they are moving to California to train with a new coach, Madison is devastated. How can she navigate freshman year and training for Regionals without her? While trying to figure out how to cope without Hannah, Madison and her younger sister take on a new client in their pet-sitting service who not only have the most adorable puppy, but a very cute 15 year old son, Dylan, who quickly becomes the most talked about boy in school. When his twin sister, Sydney, joins the Emerald City Figure Skating club, she turns out to be Madison's biggest obstacle to winning the Northwest Pacific Regional competition. Just when Hannah starts to make friends with Sydney, she learns a secret that will test whether she'll do the right thing, risking her relationship with Dylan. Will Hannah trust her instincts or will her fear of failure keep her On Edge?

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Customer Reviews

it was a good teen read. Not at all complex, but gave the reader a look into what competitive figure skating may be like.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book by Sarah Lawson. Personally, I don't know anything about ice skating, so this book was very interesting and a fresh read. Sara Lawson has impressed me with her interesting writing style as she adds enough to get your own imagination run wild. The characters were well thought out and I utterly enjoyed the plot. Another reason why I am entertained by this book is the way it is written from a teenager/young adult's perspective. Although I personally would have liked Maddie to help Sydney with her secret, it is not always how teenagers think about such situations. It is clear that Maddie was torn between her emotions for doing what is right and what is right for her. She was thinking about the new boy and winning and in the end did not do what I expected. The Author has written with a twist to surprise the reader. This is exactly my final awesome vote on this book. Even as teenagers/young adults, life will hand you circumstances or situations and you will need to make a decision, which is the easy part. The difficult part comes with the consequences of that decision and maybe we can wait and see, perhaps Sarah Lawson will surprise us with a second book on this...I highly recommend this book to any young girl out there. It will surely question your own beliefs. Well done to Sara Lawson!

On Edge was a great skating book. I felt like this book captured the skating world pretty accurately. The book catches the emotions of every skater; worrying about their program, watching their weight/food, being anxious about the competition, and most importantly, the drama, drama, drama. Skating is a cut throat sport and I thought that this book summed that up pretty well. Maddie also struggles with asthma and I thought that was pretty cool. Usually in sport books the athlete doesn't have any health problems, but I liked that Maddie has an illness she struggles with daily along with skating. Maddie's coaches were great. I only wish I had that awesome of coaches when I skated, haha! I enjoyed the descriptions of the ice rink and thought that the descriptions of the skaters performing their programs were great. SPOILER ALERT!!! Overall I liked this book, but there were some flaws in it that bothered me. In On Edge the Emerald City figure skaters all practice together as a team, but in real life figure skaters practice individually with a coach one on one. And except for the nationally broadcasted competitions, there is no giant screen or kiss and cry area. The scores are posted after the skaters are all done. Also, it is very hard to believe that all these fourteen year olds are pulling off triple jumps, something Olympians struggle with daily. But these are minor flaws that I overlooked and that didn't bother me too much while reading the book. Even though Sydney

was mean, I liked her the most out of everyone. She was the most dedicated skater and you could tell everything she did was to try and better herself as an athlete. Sydney's family is terrible. Her dad is mean, her mom is okay, I guess, but I can't stand her brother, Dylan (who is Maddie's crush). He's hunky enough but he doesn't do anything to help his sister, and barely seems to care about her at all. The stress of skating and her crappy family causes Sydney to develop an eating disorder, which Maddie discovers later. I liked Maddie, but I felt irritated at her when she doesn't do anything to help Sydney once she finds out she has an eating disorder. I thought that she would tell her coach everything, but that never happened. In fact, Maddie doesn't tell anyone at all and the book ends that way. There's a part that really bothered me where Maddie doesn't want to think about Sydney's problems because it would ruin her first date. I wanted Maddie to help Sydney so badly but the book simply ends with Maddie doing a perfect program at Regionals, which was sort of a let down because I was expecting more. I'll definitely be reading #2, Full Revolution, and I hope Maddie finds a way to help out Sydney.

And I'm the first to admit that I love gratuitous teen fiction, and I was obsessed with the Silver Blades series when I was in middle school/high school. AND I'm old now and cynical LOL. But still...the fact is, the only POC I saw in the whole book was Michelle frickin' Kwan. Literally the only non-white person. And obviously it's a limited genre in terms of length...but really? Not resolving anything at all? IN a few years this book is gonna be SO DATED. But it is what it is...it doesn't really pretend to be anything more, and it was a pretty nice drunk read.

If you like Jennifer Comeaux's Edge series, then you will like this series. More for the young adult crowd but interesting to see what work goes into skating competitively. Certain arcs were usual tropes but a good overall story. Looking forward to the next book in the series.

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