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Cupid Painted Blind



Synopsis

Few things are more exciting and, frankly, unnerving than your first day of high school. Except, maybe, coming out to your friends when they already kinda knew you were gay. Or finding out that the breathtakingly handsome guy you've just met is best buddies with your archnemesis who happens to be a homophobic bully. Or being teamed up for a school assignment with that decidedly unattractive, facially-deformed, freaky-looking weirdo who hasn't got a friend in the world. Or all of the above. Matthew Dunstan, closeted freshman, future bestselling author, and frequently blushing teenager is on a quest to find himself, find love, and live happily ever after. Sounds easy enough, right? But when the opportunities for failure are endless, it doesn't take much to turn your life upside down. And that's not exactly what you need when you try to catch someone's eye without attracting everyone's attention. *Cupid Painted Blind* is a heartbreaking, heartwarming, and occasionally hilarious roller coaster ride through an awkward freshman's first few weeks of high school that will appeal to readers of all ages who enjoy Young Adult LGBTQ fiction.

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Customer Reviews

Quirky, unpredictable, well written. The characters are as strange as real people actually are, full of often-unseen strengths and weaknesses. There are a couple of laugh-out-loud moments. It might have been 50 pages shorter, but then again maybe not.

There is a moral to the story of "Cupid Painted Blind," a title, by the way, that could not be more perfect. A gay high school boy is faced with a gorgeous would-be boyfriend on the one hand and an ugly, deformed boy on the other. He learns valuable lessons from both, and ultimately winds up with a boyfriend he does indeed love. The writing here is eloquent, the characters are fleshed out and likable, and the tale is a smart one well told. I heartily recommend Cupid Painted Blind.

Very well written and with well developed characters. Captures the angst of a hormone infected teenager and allows him to begin to mature. A funny but also endearing story of first love.

Honest, heartfelt, different, and respectful of all of its characters. Definitely better-written than most YA fiction, and leaps above a lot of YA LGBT coming-out fiction. Not explicit, funny, relatable, and bitter-sweet.

Good Reading.

I was hoping the story would be more about Matthew and Chris.

What's the most effective way of coming out? Is there a foolproof way of telling your parents and friends that you are gay? This is very honest and blunt. No holds barred. It talks about love and of that-dreaded-big-coming-out. It is like having a conversation with your gay friends. Everything is said as it is. No hesitations. No second-guessing. Straight to the heart of the matter. As bold as it gets. Like rehashing your latest most embarrassing experience. You relate it as how you saw the events unfold. The devil is in the details. And like our embarrassed friend, we exactly know how she felt. We know how her face went beet red and wished the earth just swallowed her whole. This is how I felt for Matt. I empathize with him, not that I am gay. I am totally straight, just so you know. But because we all know how it feels to hide a secret from the people whom we should not be

withholding anything from. Secrets are messy. A lot of relationships and friendships have been destroyed because of them. And if only I could do the coming out for Matt, I would have done it for him already. But then again, as Zoey (Matt's sister) said, it would be like dragging him out and not coming out. Wise advice. One of the very important points that the book raised was about having a choice in the matter. What if people were given the choice to be not gay? Would they have preferred to be straight just so they would not have to go through all the ridicule, knowing they actually have a choice not to? I think this is a very logical question which everybody should think about. And this should be our first thought every time we face someone who is gay. I think this would really make a big difference seeing it from their perspective. It would be really unnerving to realize that if we were in their shoes, we would know that the shoe does hurt. Excruciatingly. Saying that "Love is blind" is so cliché but then it is how it works, oftentimes. Cupid Painted Blind is loving not with the eyes but with the mind. I totally agree. What will you do with prettiness if he has no personality at all? And if all he does is talk about himself? I love this about the book. It has a way of baring things out just as they should be. Plain and simple. This is about loving, free of the superficial. This is loving with everything about the person, including their overloaded baggage. This is accepting and embracing. I wasn't sure I would appreciate this book but I was not surprised that I did. We all need to feel accepted, regardless of our gender preferences. So, Matt is definitely not alone in feeling like he has to make a good impression on everyone. But I realized, as you grew older and more exposed to experiences in life, you become less concerned of pleasing everyone. You only care about the feelings of the people you love most. Those that are not in your immediate circle of influence, you tend to tolerate or not be bothered at all. To hell with them! I give the book four arrow-pierced hearts. Yes, if I were Matt's sister, I would be extremely happy that he has found someone to love and for accepting that person for all he is. I think this book should be read by everyone. Especially those who are homophobic or uncomfortable with homosexuals. I think this is a good way of making these people understand what our LGBTQ friends are going through. It is time we recognize their feelings and their fears. Time to treat them our equals which has been long overdue. It's time we give them their own space under the sun, for them to achieve their aspirations and dreams. Enough of the discrimination, bullying and name-calling. We should give them big hugs for coming out of that dark and lonely closet space. This is my first time to read a LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gays, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) novel. This has been an enriching experience. This is very brave of Marcus Herzig to sort of open the closet and letting all the skeletons out on display, thereby, freeing all the demons. P.S. I noticed that Herzig has a really good sense of humor - such as naming the characters like Sandy Lauper (sounds like Cindy Lauper), using disastrous weather phenomena for

nicknames, and I love those really witty shirts worn by Chris. I got this in exchange for an honest review.

Title: Cupid Painted Blind Author: Marcus Herzig Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform ISBN: 1537704869 Buy Link: [...] Reviewer: Teresa Fallen Angel Blurb: Few things are more exciting and, frankly, unnerving than your first day of high school. Except, maybe, coming out to your friends when they already kinda knew you were gay. Or finding out that the breathtakingly handsome guy you've just met is best buddies with your archnemesis who happens to be a homophobic bully. Or being teamed up for a school assignment with that decidedly unattractive, facially-deformed, freaky-looking weirdo who hasn't got a friend in the world. Or all of the above. Matthew Dunstan, closeted freshman, future bestselling author, and frequently blushing teenager is on a quest to find himself, find love, and live happily ever after. Sounds easy enough, right? But when the opportunities for failure are endless, it doesn't take much to turn your life upside down. And that's not exactly what you need when you try to catch someone's eye without attracting everyone's attention. Cupid Painted Blind is a heartbreaking, heartwarming, and occasionally hilarious roller coaster ride through an awkward freshman's first few weeks of high school that will appeal to readers of all ages who enjoy Young Adult LGBTQ fiction. Total Score: 5/5 Summary: Given for an honest review. Most people enter high school feeling that they don't fit in and Mathew is no exception. Even though he has friends he is scared how they will react if they ever find out that he was gay. It was almost anticlimatic for Mathew when his sister Zoey had already figured it out. Mathew thought his life was looking up when he met a new guy, Chris, at school until he realized that he was friends with Jack, his personal bully! Things get even stranger a week later when another new student, Phil, arrives with his very unusual appearance that garners him much abuse and scorn from many of the students, especially Chris and his friends. Chris's happy and friendly actions to Mathew in private were vastly different to his nasty, bullying behavior around his friends make Mathew question their growing attraction. Between dealing with coming out, bullies, his growing friendship with Phil, and the normal problems of any high school student, Mathew has his hands full with finding his footing. This was a very incredible and inspiring story showing the reader that to really know someone you have to look beyond the surface to see who they really are. At first glance, Phil's appearance could cause pause, but once Mathew got to know him he realized what a wonderful guy he was. This is a book that should be a must read for any teen to show them that there are people out there for them if they just look around. This is a definite recommended read!

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