



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

- Sales Rank: #105432 in Books
- Brand: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
- Published on: 2008
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 5.50" h x .50" w x 8.50" l, .44 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 224 pages

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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:

Christina Bain:

The book *Story of a Girl* give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable much more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem using your subject. If you can make reading a book *Story of a Girl* being your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your own personal capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. It is possible to know everything if you like open and read a guide *Story of a Girl*. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or some others. So , how do you think about this e-book?

Peter Mullins:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? May be reading a book might be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the reserve untitled *Story of a Girl* can be good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Kathy Graves:

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the spare time or they will get great deal of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , when we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading guides. It can be your alternative with spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is definitely *Story of a Girl*.

Margaret Garcia:

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book specifically book entitled *Story of a Girl* your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in most aspect that

maybe not known for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a guide then become one application form conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get prior to. The Story of a Girl giving you one more experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful facts for your better life in this particular era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

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