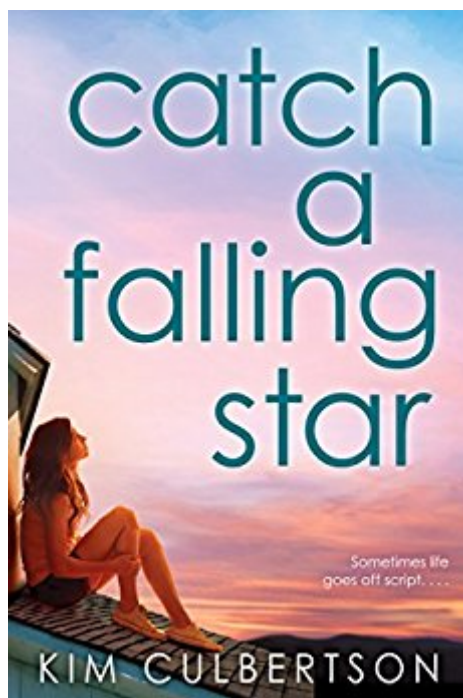


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Catch A Falling Star



Synopsis

A deliciously charming novel about finding true love . . . and yourself. Nothing ever happens in Little, CA. Which is just the way Carter Moon likes it. But when Hollywood arrives to film a movie starring former child star turned PR mess Adam Jakes, everything changes. Carter's town becomes a giant glittery set and, much to her annoyance, everyone is starry-eyed for Adam. Carter seems to be the only girl not falling all over herself to get a glimpse of him. Which apparently makes her perfect for the secret offer of a lifetime: playing the role of Adam's girlfriend while he's in town, to improve his public image, in exchange for a hefty paycheck. Her family really needs the money and so Carter agrees. But it turns out Adam isn't at all who she thought he was. As they grow closer, their relationship walks a blurry line between what's real and what's fake, and Carter must open her eyes to the scariest of unexplored worlds - her future. Can Carter figure out what she wants out of life AND get the guy? Or are there no Hollywood endings in real life?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This was adorable. I loved our main character, Carter. I thought she was so genuine, and that so many people her age would be able to relate to some of her problems. She's a small town girl, who gave up something she loved, because other people's expectations ruined it for her. She's a teen, who doesn't like being outside her comfort zone. She's a girl dealing with a family problem and trying to help in any way she can. She's a girl, who loves an addict and is trying to figure out where to draw the line. That last issue is what thrusts her into Adam's orbit. This super private girl takes on fake dating to help her family, but it ends up being a life changing experience. Carter grows so much during the story and makes so many discoveries about herself. I was quite proud of her at times. Our other main character, Adam, is super complicated. He is very annoying at times and very lovable at others. Overall, a fun, cute read with quite a bit of heart and some swoon-worthy moments that made me smile.

As a small town girl, I just loved this book. Loved the angst, fears, and feelings going on in the book. Great read. Content: Completely clean. Language: completely clean. Religious: not at all Overall story: I thought the main character was very well developed. The story was also interesting even though it's been done a lot. I had a hard time getting into this, but once I did I couldn't put it down. Happy reading!!

I'm way over the age demographic for this book, mid 50's. I found out about it through BookBub. It sounded like a nice story, which it was, but I honestly didn't expect all the amazing philosophical moments that made me ponder my own life. Beautifully written. You could imagine the cute "little" town, the people and see it all happening. I loved the blog that was written between chapters, all the thought provoking questions. I can honestly say, I will definitely read this book again, I loved it THAT much. ♡••

Carter is a girl who lives in the present and is stuck. When Adam comes to town to film a movie, he unleashes the possibilities of tomorrow. Carter isn't sure what real or fake and depends on her sidekicks, Drake and Chloe, to navigate her future. A great YA read.

Loved it from page one. Carter is an amazing girl. Even Adam the movie star is a relatable character. The friendships, family elements, and little nuggets of wisdom make this a gem of a story. Clean and sweet. Well written. Highly recommend

I especially liked the way the author creates Carter, the main character, as having strong, somewhat traditional values (she likes her parents and is intensely loyal to friends), yet as someone who insists on learning her own lessons through making choices and taking consequences for them. She deals with heavy stuff (for example, a gambling-addict brother) and learns that she is not able to solve every problem in the world, yet keeps her integrity. She has a rigged, fantasy kind of relationship with a movie star for which she is paid, and the relationship becomes real -- or does it? Although the end is a bit sugary, the reader is left with a sense of how manipulated we can be by media and their fawned-over creations, the celebrities. Even among celebrities like Carter's flame, the fictional Adam Jakes, it takes persistent effort and a reawakening to realize the difference between media creation and the self-driven life. Crisply well-written, a fine YA read.

Catching a Falling Star is a pretty fantastic example of how and why YA fiction - particularly, contemporary YA fiction - continues to be such a powerful, popular genre for all readers. This isn't just a breezy summer romance, with strong writing and engaging characters. (Though it most definitely is that!) This is a thoughtful, contemplative look into how each person finds their place in the world, even as they move beyond their original sphere to discover who they truly are and who they're meant to be. I think that readers will find Carter and Adam relatable and likable. Their struggles with defining themselves, trying to find their place in their mutually respective and chaotic worlds, are probably feelings that readers have had themselves as they've gotten older. Readers will undoubtedly connect with them and feel validated by their journey. As for me, this is my first Kim Culbertson novel, but it definitely won't be my last. I'm looking forward to seeing what other YA fiction she produces in the future, while going back and checking out what's already out there.

I am not the first person to note that the genre called Young Adult fiction has become steadily more sophisticated, more emotionally deep and true, and deal honestly and unsationally with contemporary issues. Kim Culbertson's books have been at the forefront of this transition. Her previous book, and now one, present fully realized characters in realistically rendered situations. Here, without giving too much of the plot away, a young spoiled film star turns a small northern California town on its ear, and dramatically affects the quiet and careful life of the story's protagonist. Her family life and the beautifully rendered of her with her two close friends change with surprising subtlety as the levels of the movie stars are revealed and explored. This is an accessible, readable, touching, enjoyable, humorous wonderful story.

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