



If I Stay

By Gayle Forman

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If I Stay By Gayle Forman

The critically acclaimed, bestselling novel from Gayle Forman, author of Where She Went, Just One Day, and Just One Year.

Soon to be a major motion picture, starring Chloe Grace Moretz!

In the blink of an eye everything changes. Seventeen year-old Mia has no memory of the accident; she can only recall what happened afterwards, watching her own damaged body being taken from the wreck. Little by little she struggles to put together the pieces- to figure out what she has lost, what she has left, and the very difficult choice she must make. Heartwrenchingly beautiful, this will change the way you look at life, love, and family. Now a major motion picture starring Chloe Grace Moretz, Mia's story will stay with you for a long, long time.

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If I Stay By Gayle Forman Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Interview with Gayle Forman



Q: You started your career as a journalist and your first book is a travelogue about going around the world. Is YA literature a departure for you?

Gayle Forman: Actually, it's more of a homecoming. My first writing job was at *Seventeen*, where I spent five years on staff and as a contributor reporting the magazine's social-issues stories. I loved writing for teens then because—contrary to popular opinion—they really care about serious issues (from child soldiers in Africa to kids embroiled in the drug war here) and they engage in their reading with such passion. So, now that I'm writing young-adult literature, it feels like I've come full circle.

Q: This book explores some serious themes. Why is this a book for kids and not adults?

GF: It's a book for kids precisely because it explores serious themes. Teenagers are grappling with choices about life and love as much as adults, so why shouldn't their reading reflect that? I don't set out to write YA. It just seems like I'm drawn to stories about young people. That said, I think *If I Stay* is for adults, too. I love the idea of teens reading this book and then handing it off to their parents.

Q: Many key characters are serious musicians, and songs are referenced throughout the book. Are you a musician?

GF: No. Except for piano lessons when I was a kid and a brief spate of guitar playing in my teens, I've never played an instrument. I am, however, a huge music fan. And my husband is a musician; he was playing in a punk band when we met, so I've spent a lot of my life ensconced in that scene. I seem drawn to writing about musicians, though I've never been all that interested in the cello until Mia popped into my head.

Q: What inspired you to write this book?

GF: Music. Oregon. People I have loved. And unfortunately, the book is inspired by a real-life tragedy that happened several years ago.

Q: This is a book about death, but it's not depressing. Why is that?

GF: Maybe because it's really about the power of love—of family, friends, music—and therefore it ultimately affirms life.

Starred Review. The last normal moment that Mia, a talented cellist, can remember is being in the car with her family. Then she is standing outside her body beside their mangled Buick and her parents' corpses, watching herself and her little brother being tended by paramedics. As she ponders her state (*Am I dead? I actually have to ask myself this*), Mia is whisked away to a hospital, where, her body in a coma, she reflects on the past and tries to decide whether to fight to live. Via Mia's thoughts and flashbacks, Forman (*Sisters in Sanity*) expertly explores the teenager's life, her passion for classical music and her strong relationships with her family, friends and boyfriend, Adam. Mia's singular perspective (which will recall Alice Sebold's adult novel, *The Lovely Bones*) also allows for powerful portraits of her friends and family as they cope: Please don't die. If you die, there's going to be one of those cheesy Princess Diana memorials at school, prays Mia's friend Kim. I know you'd hate that kind of thing. Intensely moving, the novel will force readers to take stock of their lives and the people and things that make them worth living. Ages 14–up. (*Apr.*)

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From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Grade 9 Up—Forman creates a cast of captivating characters and pulls readers into a compelling story that will cause them to laugh, cry, and question the boundaries of family and love. While out on a drive with her family, 17-year-old Mia is suddenly separated from her body and forced to watch the aftermath of the accident that kills her parents and gravely injures her and her younger brother. Far from supernatural, this shift in perspective will be readily accepted by readers as Mia reminisces about significant events and people in her life while her body lies in a coma. Alternating between the past and the present, she reveals the details and complexities of her relationships with family and friends, including the unlikely romance with her punk-rock boyfriend, Adam. An accomplished musician herself, Mia is torn between pursuing her love for music at Julliard and a future with Adam in Oregon. However, she must first choose between fighting to survive and giving in to the resulting sadness and despair over all she has lost. Readers will find themselves engrossed in Mia's struggles and will race to the satisfying yet realistic conclusion. Teens will identify with Mia's honest discussion of her own insecurities and doubts. Both brutal and beautiful, this thought-provoking story will stay with readers long after the last page is turned.—*Lynn*

Rashid, Marriotts Ridge High School, Marriottsville, MD

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Scott Frew:

Book is to be different for each grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important for all of us. The book *If I Stay* ended up being making you to know about other knowledge and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages for you. The publication *If I Stay* is not only giving you more new information but also to be your friend when you feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship while using book *If I Stay*. You never feel lose out for everything if you read some books.

India Mead:

Now a day people who Living in the era just where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources inside can be true or not involve people to be aware of each data they get. How a lot more to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Reading a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information specifically this *If I Stay* book as this book

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Patrice Reese:

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