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Just Flirt

Aylea Stephens

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Book Review

Title: Just Flirt

Author: Laura Bowers

Reviewer: Aylea Stephens

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux

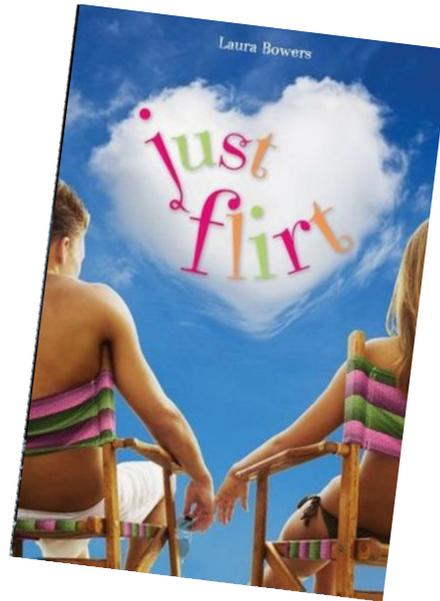
Publication Year: 2012

ISBN: 9780374355159

Number of Pages: 325

Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Significant Shortcomings



Review

Dee Barton wants to spend the summer being a Superflirt with her Nine Rules of Flirting and the guys that come to stay at her family's campground. Sabrina wants to spend the summer being popular and being the perfect girlfriend to Blaine, Dee's ex-boyfriend. Both girls dislike the other. When a secret blog gets them both involved in a lawsuit that could change their lives, Dee and Sabrina realize that they are not as different as they thought as they team up to stop the people who want to use them to further their own ambitions. They manage to stop the lawsuit and become friends with plenty of adventures and, of course, flirting.

Neither of the main characters in the book are particularly likeable. Dee flirts with boys just because she can and has few thoughts about the feelings of the boys she toys with, and Sabrina is self-centered and just as unkind. However, the author did a great job at showing the different characters in the viewpoints and made them seem like two distinct voices. Almost all of the characters regardless of age show a lot of immaturity and are inconsiderate towards others, sometimes just to further the plot rather than being character traits. The book has many humorous moments, but there are also many moments that go past the point of believability. It makes little sense that these two girls who started out as sworn enemies would so easily forgive each other and become a team. Still, it is a fun, light read that feels just right for summer in spite of its flaws.