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### Not If I Save You First

Katelyn Osborn

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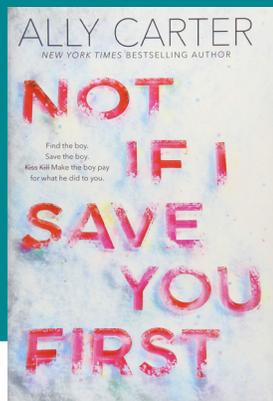
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## Book Review

# Not If I Save You First

### Author

Ally Carter

### Reviewer

Katelyn Osborn

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### Rating

Excellent

### Level

Young Adult

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### Pages

293

### Year

2018

### ISBN

9781338134148

### Publisher

Scholastic Press

Maddie “Mad Dog” Manchester used to have a pretty easy life. She lived in the White House and occasionally got into trouble with her best friend Logan, the President’s son. After a terrible accident involving some scary Russians and Logan’s mom, Maddie’s father moves his family into the Alaskan wilderness. Maddie thought she’d never see Logan again, but six years later he reappears, and he’s going to live with them until he learns his lesson. Maddie doesn’t need Logan anymore. She is happy with her bedazzled hatchet, books, and survival skills. But when the two are kidnapped, an arduous journey puts her hard-earned skills and sparkly weapons to the test.

Carter has created a real thriller that will keep readers frantically turning pages until the conclusion. She challenges the conventions of this genre by making a teenage girl strong enough to take on a killer Russian and soft enough to learn to care about a boy she’d written off for good. Logan is likable enough, but Maddie is the real star here. Told in chapters alternating to each perspective, readers get to see the story unfold from both the characters’ own biased views and the perspective of someone that cares about them. The book’s genre brings in some violence, but the language is clean and there is minimal sexual content. Readers looking for a story that challenges cliques and gender norms will enjoy this novel.

\*Contains moderate violence.