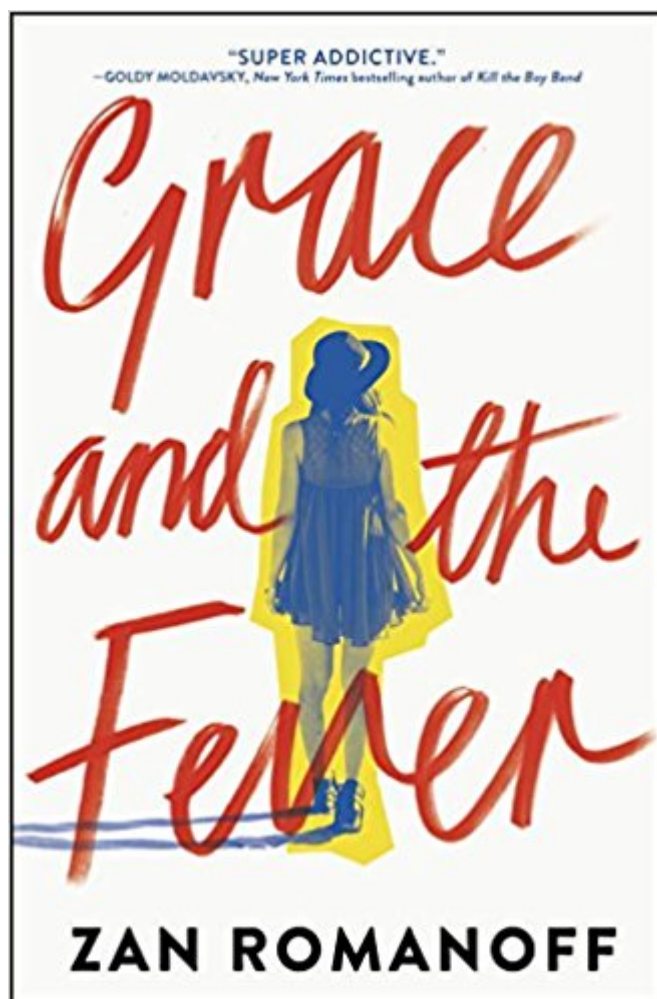




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Grace And The Fever



Synopsis

Rainbow Rowell's *Fangirl* meets Jenny Han's *The Summer I Turned Pretty* in this contemporary YA about what it means to be a fan and what it means to be a friend when your whole world is in flux. In middle school, everyone was a Fever Dream fan. Now, a few weeks after her high school graduation, Grace Thomas sometimes feels like the only one who never moved on. She can't imagine what she'd do without the community of online fans that share her obsession. Or what her IRL friends would say if they ever found out about it. Then, one summer night, the unthinkable happens: Grace meets her idol, Jes. What starts out as an elusive glimpse of Fever Dream's world turns into an unlikely romance, and leads her to confront dark, complex truths about herself and the realities of stardom. From the author of *A Song to Take* the World Apart, *Grace and the Fever* is a heart-clutching reminder of what it's like to fall in love whether it's with a boy or a boy band and how difficult it is to figure out who you are after you've fallen out of love again. "Grace and The Fever" crackles with sharp cultural commentary and deep emotional resonance." — "Bitch Magazine" "Grace and the Fever is a clear-eyed portrait of 'the girls of the internet' . . . a YA novel that does the fangirl justice." — "The Verge" "A wise, bittersweet coming-of-age story for the thinking fangirl." — Anna Breslaw, author of *Scarlett Epstein Hates It Here* "Super addictive." — Goldy Moldavsky, New York Times bestselling author of *Kill the Boy Band* "A smart, warm, feminist ode to anyone who has ever been eighteen, made a mess of their own life, spent their late night hours on Tumblr, or loved a band so much it hurt." — Katie Coyle, author of *Vivian Apple at the End of the World*

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Customer Reviews

"Genuine dialogue, texts, e-mails, online posts ... bring to life this edgy and layered look at the glitz and secrets of stardom from ordinary eyes." â "Booklist, starred review"

"Grace and The Fever" crackles with sharp cultural commentary and deep emotional resonance." â "Bitch Magazine"

"Grace and the Fever is a clear-eyed portrait of 'the girls of the internet' . . . a YA novel that does the fangirl justice." â "The Verge"

"A thrilling romp through a fangirl fantasy in which everything crashes and burns and the heroine emerges stronger." â "Kirkus"

"Grace and the Fever reads a lot like how loving a boy band feels: you think it's cute at first and then suddenly you find yourself so enthralled that you just need more and more and you hope your family isn't too concerned because yep you are definitely obsessed. Super addictive." â "Goldy Moldavsky, New York Times bestselling author of Kill the Boy Band"

"A wise, bittersweet coming-of-age story for the thinking fangirl." â "Anna Breslaw, author of Scarlett Epstein Hates It Here"

"A smart, warm, feminist ode to anyone who has ever been eighteen, made a mess of their own life, spent their late night hours on Tumblr, or loved a band so much it hurt." â "Katie Coyle, author of Vivian Apple at the End of the World"

"Grace and the Fever" is a warm and thoughtful exploration of fannishness in all its multifaceted complexity, and it's a sweet-natured coming of age story too. But most of all, it's a love letter to band fandom, and all the funny, obsessive, reviled teenage girls who created it." â "Vox

Zan Romanoff fell in love with Hanson when she was ten and has been a boy-band fanatic and teen-idol obsessive ever since. She lives and writes in Los Angeles; this is her second novel. Visit her at zanromanoff.com or follow her on Twitter at @zanopticon.

With her 2nd literary outing, Zan Romanoff delves into the secret and public world of fangirls, the stuff that does and, more important, doesn't get posted online, eventually confronting, with dramatic panache and psychological insight, the inevitable clash of illusion and reality, with reality usually winning that contest, when 18-year-old Grace is given entrance to the inner circle of revered boyband Fever Dream, her longtime obsession, and finds there a truth that calls into question pretty much everything she believes about the band and herself. Years after her friends have grown out of teenybopper devotions, Grace has continued, in secret, to obsess over and fantasize about a band whose typical demographic is the 14-year-old girl crowd. That Grace, who diligently hides her true

identity from the community of Fever Dream worshippers (or 'shippers as they're called), and in particular a subset of FD 'shippers who are convinced that 2 of the guys in the band are closeted gay lovers, ends up partying with the band via her chance encounter with band pretty-boy Jes becomes a source of uncomfortable irony, as Grace tries to navigate her way through fangirl internet fame (due to pictures posted online), the outing of her secret life, and revelations about the band that shatter not just her sense of reality but her heart as well. To depict these very messy lives in such a tidy and precise way is a tribute to Romanoff's mad skillz, on especially impressive display in the final, gorgeously orchestrated party scene, a complex web of fracturing stories, that sets up the reaffirming and heartfelt aftermath. One hopes the YA label associated with this novel won't limit the audience for this gifted writer whose keen take on things speaks to all ages. Zan Romanoff is only going one direction . . . and that's UP.

While the premise of watching a young woman caught up by accident in the world of her favorite boy band will seem superficial on its face to those outside the world of fandom, it is quickly clear that Grace and the Fever expands well beyond the world of fandom to explore feminine teen isolation, the function of fantasy in our lives, and how our projections complicate our expectations of people. In Romanoff's capable hands, the world of fans is portrayed with humor, tenderness, and a startling accuracy to any of us who belong to it. Most importantly of all, the author does not dismiss the fandom nor elevate it beyond reproach. She holds the members of it accountable and in so doing, draws dimensions and heart out of all of her characters.

This book was wonderful in so many ways. I couldn't put it down and ended up reading it in a day. To start, the story is fun and captivating. Romanoff deftly weaves mystery with a heartwarming coming-of-age story (if we must call it that). Really, this book is so much more than a romance, coming-of-age story, or a book about a boyband. While I love all three of those things, this book is great because it gives us Grace, who so many of us will see in our younger or current selves. Grace reminds us what it is like to love something wholeheartedly, to find people who understand us, and to wonder how to reconcile our internal selves with our loved ones' perception of us. These universal themes make this a good read for anyone, and especially for anyone who is going through or has been through the transition from the teen years to adulthood. I think this book will be particularly special to anyone who has engaged in fandom of any kind. I laughed out loud at times because of how accurate Romanoff's version of modern fandom is. Most delightful, though, was getting to see (at least a version of) the other side: the life of young celebrities confronted with

passionate fans and constant media scrutiny. Grace's story shows a balanced view of fandom without judgment, but also provides food for thought for anyone who has engaged in our celebrity culture without necessarily thinking through the consequences.

Great literary (and feminist) YA by Ms. Romanoff. Totally unafraid to look into the world of fandom with no judgment (although still clear-eyed about its more unsavory elements). And while it takes many tropes and constructs from fandom, she manages to use that in creating a universal story about coming to terms with yourself, who you are and what you want to be. Any young person (or adult for that matter) who has ever taken comfort in a secret passion that you can't quite bring yourself to share with the world will get something out of this. Highly recommended.

Thoroughly enjoyed this book! Excellent portrayal of fandom and friendship, and the tension between fan life and living in the world. Loved how the book explores imagining people complexly - with celebrity icons, but "normal" people as well. I also appreciated the book doesn't shy away from some of the negative aspects of fandom, but still in the end I came away with an huge feeling of appreciation for the communities fandom can build. Highly relatable even if you're not super familiar with boybands.

Very fulfilling read, but at times so close to high school me it felt embarrassing

Had so much fun reading this book!

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