

If I Stay

By Gayle Forman

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

Now a major motion picture, starring Chloe Grace Moretz! Includes exclusive interviews with Chloe Grace Moretz and her co-star Jamie Blackley.

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. Heart-wrenchingly 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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- 304 pages

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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 the 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.

From Publishers Weekly

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:

Robert Ford:

The reason? Because this If I Stay is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap that but latter it will shock you with the secret that inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such awesome way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of gains than the other book have got such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to delay having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

Bryan Rodriguez:

This If I Stay is great book for you because the content which can be full of information for you who all always deal with world and also have to make decision every minute. That book reveal it data accurately using great organize word or we can claim no rambling sentences inside it. So if you are read this hurriedly

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Deborah Mazzarella:

The book untitled If I Stay contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains her idea with easy way. The language is very clear and understandable all the people, so do definitely not worry, you can easy to read the item. The book was written by famous author. The author will take you in the new time of literary works. It is possible to read this book because you can read more your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book throughout anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can open their official web-site and also order it. Have a nice examine.

Justin Oliver:

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