



What Kind of Love?: The Diary of a Pregnant Teenager

By Sheila Cole

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In a flash, Valerie's world comes tumbling down. She and Peter were sharing their dreams. Now she and Peter share a problem . . .

Except it turns out to be Val's problem. Peter says he loves her, but he has to get on with his life. Valerie wishes she could get on with her life. But she lives each day with the reality Peter wants to forget—and it is she who must make the impossible choices . . . when love has no answers.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Presented as entries in a diary, Cole's (*The Dragon in the Cliff*) novel focuses on the predicament of the mostly wholesome Valerie, who gets pregnant the very first time she has intercourse (she repents of her sex life, incidentally, even before she realizes she's pregnant). After a couple of months of worry and denial, the teenager faces up to her condition. She and her boyfriend, Peter, investigate the possibility of abortion, but quickly decide to marry and raise the baby together. Peter's father, however, exiles him to a boarding school, and Valerie's parents, meanwhile, encourage her to put the baby up for adoption. Cole assembles an impressive array of solid information. Quite often, these facts come adroitly camouflaged: the issue of childproofing a house, for example, is tackled in the context of a classroom discussion that Valerie cites to prove how tiresome the teacher is ("How these discussions are supposed to teach us anything is beyond me," Valerie concludes). But despite the profusion of down-to-earth details, the unswerving, didactic agenda prevents the novel from becoming as intensely personal as many works on this subject, e.g., Berlie Doherty's *Dear Nobody*. Ages 10-up.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 8 Up? Valerie Larch, 15, is pregnant. By the time she visits Planned Parenthood, an abortion is not an easy option. Both sets of parents are against her marrying Peter, and, to keep them apart, the young man is sent to live with his father in Santa Barbara. This six-month excerpt from the young woman's diary reflects her thoughts and feelings from suspecting the pregnancy to setting up an appointment with an adoption agency. Cole's research and proven writing ability combine to create characters and a plot credible enough to hold readers' interest. By limiting the book to only a part of Valerie's story, the author leaves readers wondering whether or not she will go through with the adoption and what her life will be like if she doesn't, effectively causing them to relate to her dilemma and to ponder the consequences of her decision. ?Dona Weisman, Northeast Texas Library System, Garland

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 8⁺-10. The use of the diary format makes this problem novel about a pregnant, 15-year-old teen accessible as well as immediate. It took only one sexual encounter, which Cole briefly describes, for Valerie Larch to become pregnant, and now, in typical fashion, she doesn't know what to do about the baby she carries. Cole slides quickly over the choices to focus mainly on the wish-fulfillment scenario--the loving boyfriend says they'll marry. In the end, however, there's no romantic resolution: Val deals with the legacy of her irresponsibility by herself. Her decision to put the baby up for adoption is not achieved without some pain, but this book is not as wrenching as Geraldine Kaye's 1992 *Someone Else's Baby*, in which the young girl copes not only with pregnancy, but also with a dysfunctional family. Here, it's Val's determination to hang on to her romantic vision that drives the story. Plot and characterization are competently handled, however, and Cole avoids the sort of shrill preachiness that puts off YA readers. *Stephanie Zvirin*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carol Welch:

Now a day people who Living in the era where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources in it can be true or not call for people to be aware of each details they get. How many people to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Reading a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information specifically this What Kind of Love?: The Diary of a Pregnant Teenager book since this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it everbody knows.

Shawn Croll:

Hey guys, do you would like to finds a new book to see? May be the book with the headline What Kind of Love?: The Diary of a Pregnant Teenager suitable to you? The actual book was written by renowned writer in this era. Often the book untitled What Kind of Love?: The Diary of a Pregnant Teenageris the main of several books in which everyone read now. This kind of book was inspired many people in the world. When you read this reserve you will enter the new shape that you ever know prior to. The author explained their plan in the simple way, and so all of people can easily to understand the core of this guide. This book will give you a lot of information about this world now. To help you to see the represented of the world on this book.

Albert Gilchrist:

The guide with title What Kind of Love?: The Diary of a Pregnant Teenager has lot of information that you can study it. You can get a lot of profit after read this book. This kind of book exist new expertise the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world currently. That is important to yo7u to understand how the improvement of the world. That book will bring you within new era of the syndication. You can read the e-book on the smart phone, so you can read this anywhere you want.

Andrew Gillon:

Is it anyone who having spare time and then spend it whole day through watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something new? This What Kind of Love?: The Diary of a Pregnant Teenager can be the response, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this completely new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these textbooks have than the others?

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