



If I Was Your Girl

By Meredith Russo

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If I Was Your Girl By Meredith Russo

The award-winning, big-hearted novel about being seen for who you really are, and a love story you can't help but root for

Amanda Hardy is the new girl in school. Like anyone else, all she wants is to make friends and fit in. But Amanda is keeping a secret, and she's determined not to get too close to anyone.

But when she meets sweet, easygoing Grant, Amanda can't help but start to let him into her life. As they spend more time together, she realizes just how much she is losing by guarding her heart. She finds herself yearning to share with Grant everything about herself, including her past. But Amanda's terrified that once she tells him the truth, he won't be able to see past it.

Because the secret that Amanda's been keeping? It's that at her old school, she used to be Andrew. Will the truth cost Amanda her new life, and her new love?

Stonewall Book Award Winner

Walter Dean Myers Honor Book for Outstanding Children's Literature

iBooks YA Novel of the Year

A Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year

A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year

An Amazon Best Book of the Year

A Goodreads Choice Award Finalist

A Zoella Book Club Selection

A Barnes & Noble Best YA Book of the Year

A Bustle Best YA Book of the Year

IndieNext Top 10

One of Flavorwire's 50 Books Every Modern Teenager Should Read

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If I Was Your Girl By *Meredith Russo Bibliography*

- Sales Rank: #20498 in Books
- Brand: Flatiron Books
- Published on: 2016-05-03
- Released on: 2016-05-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.45" h x .4" w x 5.81" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 288 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—After a violent incident in her Atlanta suburb, Amanda moves to small-town Tennessee to make a new start with her estranged father. Finally living openly as her true self three years after she, then known as Andrew, attempted suicide, Amanda needs the safety and relative freedom of a fresh beginning. A new set of risks and opportunities open up to her as she makes friends with a group of girls harboring their own secrets, navigates a tense relationship with a father who is terrified of what the world will do to his child, and begins the first romance of her life. This is everything a coming-of-age novel should be—honest, complicated, and meaningful. Amanda navigates the teenage world with a cautious bravery that will grip readers by the heart. Russo, herself a transwoman from Tennessee, handles every issue in the story—from pot and promposals to hormones and support groups—with a deft hand, both gentle and honest. The result is a narrative that transcends the typical "issue" novel to be a beautiful tale in its own right. VERDICT A highly recommended purchase for any collection serving teens.—Amy Diegelman, Vineyard Haven Public Library, MA

Review

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IndieNext Top 10 List

One of Flavorwire's 50 Books Every Modern Teenager Should Read

"This new novel for teens **breaks new ground**...powerful." ?*O Magazine*

"A beautifully rendered YA novel . . . the first written by a transgender woman about the transgender teen experience." ?*San Francisco Chronicle*

"A vivid, compassionate portrait of a teen finding her place." ?*The Washington Post*

"An illuminating debut guided by hope and overwhelming kindness." ?*Publishers Weekly, starred review*

"A necessary, universal story about feeling different and enduring prejudices...full of love, hope, and truth." ?*Kirkus, starred review*

"This is everything a coming-of-age novel should be?honest, complicated, and meaningful. Transcends the typical 'issue' novel to be a beautiful tale in its own right." ?*School Library Journal, SLJ Popular Pick*

"Amanda's story is neither overly sentimental nor didactic. A thoughtful, truthful, and much needed coming-of-age tale." ?*Horn Book Review*

"Russo, a trans woman, writes with authority and empathy, giving readers not only an intellectual but also an emotional understanding of Amanda and her compelling story. Never didactic, this debut is a valuable contribution to the slender but growing body of literature of trans teens." ?ALA *Booklist*

"Beautiful, smart, and so urgently needed, *If I Was Your Girl* should be required reading for every teen?scratch that, every person?in America. This book is exactly what YA is for: to break ground, to break hearts, to teach us empathy, to find the universal in the specific. **I loved every word. You will too.**" ?Julie Buxbaum, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tell Me Three Things*

"Poignant and rare. *If I Was Your Girl* is **the type of book you read and want to immediately share**, because it's too important to keep to yourself." ?Julie Murphy, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dumplin'*

"*If I Was Your Girl* is important and necessary and brave, and deeply, electrically inspiring. **Read this wonderful book. Just read it.**" ?Jennifer Niven, *New York Times* bestselling author of *All the Bright Places*

"*If I Was Your Girl* will change minds and open hearts." ?Nina Lacour, critically acclaimed author of *Everything Leads to You*

"*If I Was Your Girl* is **real and raw and layered and wonderful.**" ?Alex Gino, Stonewall Award-winning author of *George*

"**If there's any justice in the world, we're all witnessing a YA powerhouse in the making.**" ?Forever YA

"**Pure magic.**" ?Book Riot

About the Author

MEREDITH RUSSO was born, raised, and lives in Tennessee. She started living as her true self in late 2013 and never looked back. *If I Was Your Girl* was partially inspired by her experiences as a trans woman. Like Amanda, Meredith is a gigantic nerd who spends a lot of her time obsessing over video games and *Star Wars*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mary Conley:

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim as well as goal; it means that guide has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time to read a book. These are reading whatever they consider because their hobby is reading a book. Think about the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, man or woman feel need book after they found difficult problem as well as exercise. Well, probably you will need this *If I Was Your Girl*.

Derek McCaleb:

Book is to be different for every grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. As it is known to us that book is very important for all of us. The book *If I Was Your Girl* ended up being making

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