



Perfect Chemistry (A Perfect Chemistry Novel)

By Simone Elkeles

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A fresh, urban twist on the classic tale of star-crossed lovers.

When Brittany Ellis walks into chemistry class on the first day of senior year, she has no clue that her carefully created "perfect" life is about to unravel before her eyes. She's forced to be lab partners with Alex Fuentes, a gang member from the other side of town, and he is about to threaten everything she's worked so hard for?her flawless reputation, her relationship with her boyfriend, and the secret that her home life is anything but perfect. Alex is a bad boy and he knows it. So when he makes a bet with his friends to lure Brittany into his life, he thinks nothing of it. But soon Alex realizes Brittany is a real person with real problems, and suddenly the bet he made in arrogance turns into something much more.

In a passionate story about looking beneath the surface, Simone Elkeles breaks through the stereotypes and barriers that threaten to keep Brittany and Alex apart.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 10 Up—Told in alternating narratives, *Perfect Chemistry* portrays a romance between two unlikely lab partners. Brittany is her Chicago high school's "golden girl" but few of her friends know that her parents are totally dysfunctional and that she is highly invested in caring for her physically and mentally disabled older sister. Alex is a member of the Latino Blood, but he wishes he could leave gang life and pursue a college career. The plot thickens as Alex accepts a bet from a friend that he cannot bed Brittany by Thanksgiving. Smoldering doesn't quite do justice to the romantic banter that sparks between them. As the story unfolds, Alex is incarcerated and later hospitalized. Raw language and Spanish phrases that Anglo readers might feel obligated to investigate further are peppered throughout. The pace picks up too quickly at the end, leaving readers wondering if they missed something as time that has previously been marked day by day begins to clip along in five-month increments. Overall though, this is a solid romance that's suitable for reluctant readers.—*Leah Krippner, Harlem High School, Machesney Park, IL*

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From [Booklist](#)

Tough guy Alex is primarily known by his classmates as a dangerous member of the Latino Bloods gang. He's not exactly thrilled when Brittany Ellis, the school's seemingly perfect beauty queen, is assigned as his lab partner—and the feeling is more than mutual. But Alex's bravado works against him when he impulsively accepts a bet that he can get Brittany in the sack. The romance that follows will not surprise any reader, yet Elkeles gives it heart by constantly switching point of view from Alex to Brittany to provide dual running commentaries on their minute-by-minute insecurities and urges. Brittany's controlling parents and sister with cerebral palsy are well drawn, but it is Elkeles' rendition of Alex and his life that is particularly vivid. Sprinkling his speech with Spanish, his gruff but tender interactions with his family and friends feel completely genuine. An idealized epilogue drains away some of the book's realism, but if the "romance" angle isn't pushed too hard, this is a novel that could be embraced by male and female readers in equal measure. Grades 9-12. --Daniel Kraus

Review

Compelling and addictive... I've still got that "wow" feeling you get after reading a great book Wondrous Reads Blog Perfect Chemistry is a novel to obsess about. It is a book that you should drop everything for...the most romantic love story that I have ever read. thebookette.com captures that rush of feelings associated with first love The Bookbag Brittany's controlling parents and sister with cerebral palsy are well drawn, but it is Elkeles' rendition of Alex and his life that is particularly vivid. Sprinkling his speech with Spanish, his gruff but tender interactions with his family and friends feel completely genuine. Booklist Elkeles pens plenty of tasteful, hot scenes...that keep the pages turning. The author definitely knows how to write romance. Kirkus Review Alternately narrated by Brittany and Alex, this compelling story portrays complex teens whose manufactured personas hide personal problems. VOYA a gripping tale readers will race through Romantic Times Magazine

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nancy Baumgardner:

The e-book untitled Perfect Chemistry (A Perfect Chemistry Novel) is the reserve that recommended to you to study. You can see the quality of the book content that will be shown to an individual. The language that publisher use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The writer was did a lot of exploration when write the book, therefore the information that they share to you is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of Perfect Chemistry (A Perfect Chemistry Novel) from the publisher to make you much more enjoy free time.

Joe Lowe:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them household or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read the book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent the whole day to reading a reserve. The book Perfect Chemistry (A Perfect Chemistry Novel) it is rather good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book offers high quality.

Loren Hatmaker:

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