



Double Clutch

Liz Reinhardt

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What happens when you fall in love with the perfect guy... twice... in one day?

Brenna Blixen spent her freshman year homeschooling in Denmark; now that she's back in the States, she's determined to make her sophomore year unforgettable. And by unforgettable, she imagined awesome classes, fun friendships, and maybe a little romance.

What she got was a whole lot of romance, and all at once.

The same day that dark, brooding Saxon Maclean charmed her with his killer good looks and whip-smart wit, Jake Kelly stole her breath away with his heart-wrenching smile and intelligent, thoughtful focus.

But Saxon is a proud player who makes it clear that he doesn't know why he can't get Brenna off of his mind and out of his system, and Jake's sweet and humble attitude hides a secret past life that might be more darker and more complex than Brenna's willing to handle.

Complicating the matter is the fact that Saxon and Jake were once best friends and are now arch-enemies... and the more Brenna finds out about their connection to each other, the more intrigued and worried she becomes.

Between keeping the peace with her lovingly over-protective parents, designing t-shirts for her high school's rising punk band, keeping up her grades in both academic and technical high school, and running the track like a maniac, Brenna has enough to worry about with out juggling two guys who make her heart thud and drive her crazy all at once.

She has to make a choice. But how can she when giving her heart to one of them might mean breaking the other's?

(Cover Design: Steven Peterson)

Recommended Age: Older YA

Double Clutch Details

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From Reader Review Double Clutch for online ebook

Elizabeth Reyes says

What's not to love about two hot guys fighting over a girl? I won't go into the description of the story as that's already been done enough. I'll just say I kept falling for one and then the other. Just when I thought I picked my favorite something would happen and AARGh! I'd be swayed the other way. Ms. Reinhardt did an excellent job of fleshing each of the leading men so that it was impossible to completely dismiss either.

The only thing that threw me was the age. At 15 it was a bit hard to believe Brenna could handle a guy like Saxon. I'm not sure I could handle a guy like that and I'm ... well let's just say I'm older than 15. *fanning myself* Not only did she handle him but she did it like a seasoned pro!

In the end I think I know who she **SHOULD** be but I'll admit I kept hoping Brenna would give into temptation. My oh my what I'd give to read a hot scene between her and Saxon. Since there is another I'll keep my fingers crossed that it happens in the next one.

Overall I enjoyed this very much and being an alpha lover I looved how Jake was so ready to kick some A\$\$ for his girl! Can't wait to read more of that! =)

~Tina~ says

Do you think it's possible that one person, the right person, can make you better know matter what your past was like?

I believe it can happen and **Double Clutch** is a great example of exactly that.

Brenna Blixen is the new girl in town, but it doesn't take long before a guy...or two are competing for her heart. Brenn is a great character, totally knows how to handle her own, knows what she wants and she'll be damned before anyone tells her otherwise. I respect that in a character. She also has quite the dilemma since she's attracted to two very appealing boys.

Lets meet the boys. Jake Kelly has a shady past, but he's open and honest with Brenn. He's sweet and kind. He's good for her and she's good for him. Mr.Right. Safe.

His rivial? Former best friend Saxon Maclean. Full of issues and sarcasm, tough and rough, makes toxic intoxication and would put a snake charmer to shame.

But these boys have there own sordid history which makes it harder for Brenna since she feels like she's in the middle. She cares for both guys, ultimately picks one but lying about how she feels about the other. This is story of who you should be with and who your scared to *want* to be with. It's a story about love.

Complicated...messy...real, exactly what love is suppose to look and feel like when your new and young.

At first I struggled with this book in the beginning, but as it started to unfold it was pretty hard to not fall for these characters. I had a really hard time picking which guy to root for since they are both really really great guys.

Jake has a lot of smooth swoon-worty moves and the things that he and Brenn explore was tasteful and sexy. But then there's Saxon who is totally my kind of guy. Funny, witty, a total bad boy and definitely earned a few warm smirks along the way. But it's when he finally shows his true colors that really made my heart go out to him. It means more coming from him somehow which makes it more bittersweet.

Liz Reinhardt does a really great job of writing a realistic and convincing book filled with angst, jealousy and the complexity of young love. Say what you want about love triangles but when done right it could be one of the most alluring elements in literature. Liz did it right. She nailed that flavor of being confused and conflicted. I also liked that my affections weren't so easily placed. These boys both come with emotional baggage but they are both just as genuine when it comes to how they feel for Brenn. It reminded me of when I was young and in love for the first time. The late night phone calls, going to the movies, introducing you to friends and then there's the physical part and how explosive it feels for the first time with someone you actually care about. Due to some of those heated scenes I think this book is more for the mature reader. It's not overly graphic but it might make some uncomfortable, so be warned.

I also really liked that I had to guess which guy was the real-deal since they would play off versions of one another to Brenn and it was tough to figure out what story was the truth. It also has a neat little twist in the end, nothing overly heavy, but enough to tangle things up even more in later books.

All in all, I really enjoyed myself with this one. It took me back to a time and place I haven't remembered in a long time. First love is a powerful emotion and when you're attracted and scared to want something else it makes it even more crazy, especially when that person has so much potential and yet you seem to be the only one who knows it.

It's quite the intriguing situation and I'm really looking forward to seeing how things play out for Brenna, Jake and Saxon in the next book.

Good stuff!

Special thanks to Liz for giving me the opportunity to read and review your story. There's a sequel right?;)

Tough Critic Book Reviews says

This series had me rolling around in a one big pile of indifference. I honestly couldn't pin point how I felt about Double Clutch. I swear the author gave me temporary bipolar disorder. I loved the teenage drama, but wasn't the biggest fan of the story. However the writing... Oh sweet mother of babies the writing!!!!

Okay, how do I put this. The "hook-up" scenes left me speechless!! Did he just-Did they-He asked what?!? He actually...OH. MY. HOLLY. HELL!! Liz Reinhardt, I know you just didn't. Oh yes you did!!! This is what I call uncensored teenage reality.

The parts I didn't like about the series were my own personal issues. Brenna Blixen had me making up my own swear words out of complete frustration. MAKE UP YOUR FRABBIN MIND GOOBERHOLE!! I hated the back and forth. I'm a huge NON-fan of love triangles which brings me to Jake. I really wanted to love the good ole country boy, but he was more whipped than Anastasia Steele from Fifty Shades of Grey. Someone needed to FedEx him a pair of balls, seriously. He does come into his own a little more in Junk Miles showing us his vengeful side and giving us a little peek of bad boy Jake in Slow Twitch. I love sweet, but there is such a thing as too sweet.

Finally there's Saxon; the proverbial bad boy. I was completely raped by that cliché. Fell for it one hundred percent!! I don't necessarily want him and Brenna together, but I do love me some Saxon!!! I wasn't a huge fan of his storyline in Slow Twitch because I never warmed up to the new characters Evan and Cadence. It's just hard to throw new people in the story so late in the game.

Liz Reinhardt is an author with edge. Even though I had some "issues" with the actual story, I completely lusted over her writing. She doesn't just push the limits; she has none. Individually I rated the books 3 stars, but the series as a whole deserves 4. I will most definitely read ANYTHING written by Liz and can't wait to see how she shocks me in the future.

Kellie Maddox-Ward says

4 1/2 stars

What happens when you fall in love with the perfect guy... twice... in one day?

I know what you're thinking.... Another YA Love triangle

Well yes and no...

It is a love triangle. But not really, not your normal one. On one hand the 2 guys are polar opposites (*which is a given for a triangle*) But on the other they are actually quite the same.

Meet Brenna Blixen

(Liz mentioned that she had bangs and mentions converse a lot, I auto thought of this photo so she became Demi Lovato in my head)

Brenna is 15 going on 16 and in most ways wayyyyy more mature than she should be at that age.

Brenna and her mother and Stepdad (Fa) have just moved back to the US after a year abroad in Denmark.

Brenna has decided that she is going to do "timeshare" which is half a day at normal high school and half a day at the tech school so she can focus on her love of art and graphic design. The thing I liked most about Bren is that she was real. She wasn't an annoying whiny bitch stuck in the middle of a love triangle where you want to throw things at her every 2 seconds! (eg- Keira from Thoughtless)

First day of High school she runs into Saxon Maclean

HEELLLOO SAXON!

BANG! Instant attraction! Funny Flanter (flirty banter) quick comebacks, photographic memory, insanely smart, full of badassness, charismatic, hard to breathe around, type of guy that could get you pregnant just by kissing you! Basically everything your mother ever warns you about.

After her half day at high school it's off to Tech and then BANG..

HEEEELLLLLLOOOOOOO JAKE KELLY!

Jake is dyslexic hence why he is at the tech. But he is Insanely gorgeous, funny as hell, great with the flanter, smart, but shy, a gentlemen, caring and vulnerable. **BUT** Turns out to be a reformed BAD BOY!

We then enter into the journey of Saxon vying for Blix's attention, Jake falling madly in love with her and not knowing how to handle it with his past. Brenna trying to be a teenager in love for the first time and handle everything else that society expects her to do. As well as her Mum.

Throw into the mix that Jake and Saxon actually used to be best friends, but Jake now hates Saxon with everything he has. Meanwhile Saxon is holding onto a dark secret about Jake that he shares with Blix but makes her keep secret! *Phew*

Liz Reinhardt has done an excellent job with this book. Honestly, it was just the right amount of everything. No betrayal nor lies so bad it couldn't be forgiven. The right amount of awkwardness and gushing, transporting you back to a teenager, those awkward first kisses, touches, heavy petting. It really was hard to pick a guy. You fell head over heels for both of them!

(view spoiler)

Just brilliant! It was exactly what I was looking for a change of pace.
On to the next!

Abbi Glines says

Holy freaking CROW! I'm completely torn. I love Jake and Saxon. There must be another book on the way because this story is sooo not over. Loved it! A must read. Trust me!!!

UPDATE: Okay here is my review... sort of...

I won't go into details since other reviewers have but this book was fabulous. I bought it and thought I'd read a little here and there while I took writing breaks but that didn't happen. I ended up getting so sucked in I spent the day reading Double Clutch. I have NEVER read a love triangle where I didn't have a "team" I was on by the end of book but this one managed to make me love both Jake and Saxon. They both have the "bad boy" thing going for them, they both are incredibly hot and they both want the same girl. It's crazy good. I can't wait for the next one. You must read it!

Sofija says

There is nothing I love more than a good old love triangle. Reading about two wonderful guys fighting for a girl makes me very happy. And this is what "Double Clutch" is essentially about. But surprisingly I found it lacking.

To start with, it lacked good editor work. It has too many little discrepancy.
Read this for example:

"I took a long shower and got dressed, then straightened my room. I was just thinking about calling Jake when I heard the mechanical whine that had scared me before. I checked my makeup in the mirror, then burst through the door and into Jake's waiting arms"

Why was she wearing a makeup? She just got out of shower!

You can say that I cavil at every word but there were a lot of such errors. I couldn't help but notice them.

Then, it lacked realistic main heroine. Brenna is just too perfect. She is beautiful (and she knows it), smart, talented (her designs are amazing), good at sport, has great relationship with her mother and stepfather. She

kept telling Jack that she is not some ideal girl, but we couldn't see it. I kept expecting a halo to start glowing over her head at any minute. All that perfection just made her seem unreal and hard to connect to.

And what was the deal about picking on Denmark? Why every one of Brenna friend don't know anything about it? Was is just author imagination or is American education really this bad? I was in six grade when we learned every word country with their capitals and biggest rivers and mountains.

And the phrase:

"Why did Thorsten have to be from the least recognized of all of the European nations?"

It is just offensive! I am sorry for being bitchy, but I am from the small European county too, so I am sensitive about this subject.

In the end, I also think that for a YA genre it had pretty detailed description of make out (almost sex) scene. I don't think that it will give teenagers right ideas.

It wasn't a bad book. I think that I would love it if I was fifteen years old. Now I found it a little naïve and overdramatic. I am pretty cynical and I want love being shown by actions and not words. Some moments were just too sweet for my taste. And a lot of sweet is not good for my teeth.

Limonessa says

Every time I decide to delve into *self-published* shaky territory I get worried. My experience in this field is quite limited and truly I am not sure I feel like actually *getting* more. This year, I was certainly heartened by instances such as Flat-Out Love but I am still burned by previous wrist-slitting catastrophes.

Thankfully, *Double Clutch* is a keeper. Mind, it is not perfect (then again, not even the traditionally published ones are) but this series and this author are certainly worth keeping an eye on.

Our Brenna, soon to be 16, has just come back from a year abroad - in Denmark - with her family. She's been home-schooled in that period and has now decided to do Share Time, attending both her regular high school and Tech school, where she's chosen graphic design. Trouble arise when, on her very first day, she meets Saxon, resident smart-ass bad boy and Jake, sweet, dyslexic, gorgeous techie, and is captivated by both. These two guys seem to have some shared history they don't want to talk about and Brenna is becoming the catalyst for the inevitable to happen.

What surprised me - pleasantly - about this book is that, despite the presence of some clichés which would normally put me in eye-rolling mode (insta-love, love triangle, new girl in school who sucks at PE, gorgeous guy with tousled hair), they are limited to beginning of the story, which then becomes interesting and fairly original.

Liz excelled at characterization in this case: the teenagers portrayed sound pretty believable, they're even occasionally goofy and certainly they don't sound like adults in the skin of teens, as it often happens. Sometimes, you can really detect the author's voice in such young characters and I think Liz pretty much managed to avoid that here.

Saxon and Jake are two charming and interesting characters and what I appreciated most is that, ultimately,

the story is not about Brenna or the love triangle but rather about them: two friends who grew apart and who are obliged to come to terms with one another again because of/thanks to a girl. There are some secrets between them and gasp! even an interesting twist towards the end. I liked their stories, their personalities (Saxon is definitely reminiscent of Adrian from VA. Enough said.) and their quirks (photographic memory and dirt bikes? I liked that!).

But let's talk about something that is far from clichéd in this book: I have never EVER read such explicit make-out scenes in YA lit comparable to the ones in this book. It was an unsettling feeling and I am most definitely not used to it. I'm used to it in paranormal romance, not in this genre!

The result is pretty much to my taste, - but might NOT be to everybody's - there is no sex since the kids are kinda young but the scenes are steamy, graphic and just... stunningly and embarrassingly real. I say embarrassingly because I seem to recall myself some centuries ago.

The one missing star from my rating has to do with, you guessed it, the editing. There are a few typos and grammar mistakes here and there which could have been avoided with the help of a clinical eye. Also, in my opinion, some parts should have been tightened up, especially the internal monologues and the descriptive parts, while the dialogues are very, very good. Brenna has a clever, witty mind and I liked her very much.

Aside from that, a very pleasant and enjoyable book. I will surely read the sequel/s to Brenna, Jake and Saxon's story and I am glad Liz Reinhardt gave me the possibility to read Double Clutch.

Morgan says

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE REVIEWS AT READING, EATING AND DREAMING I WAS BLAIR WALDORF](#)

Double Clutch is a realistic young adult romance about a girl who is caught between two guys. I'm a hard critic when it comes to love triangles because I hate it when you have A) the obvious right choice and B) the obvious wrong choice. Golly Gee...Who should I pick? Come on, there's no fun in that! Well, Reinhardt got it right with Double Clutch. There are two guys in this story. Both of them have their flaws, and they both have their charm. There was no obvious right choice for me, and that's what I loved about this novel. Reinhardt kept things realistic, relatable and current in her exciting and fun debut novel.

I think Double Clutch laid a sturdy foundation for a promising series. I really enjoyed the authors voice and style. The characters are also very capturing. My only complaint about this novel is that there wasn't any major conflict. There were some minor conflicts and struggles throughout the novel, but there was no explosion.

Like I said before, one of the best things about this novel is that both of the guys are flawed. I didn't see one "bad" character and one "good" character. Honestly, some people may read it that way; it's possible. But in my book, Jake and Saxon are on an even playing field. Both guys have their faults. One of the characters shortcomings are definitely broadcasted more than the other characters, but they both have their flaws. The other characters flaws just aren't given as much attention. (Hopefully I am making some sense. Stay with me.)

Saxon Maclean is your super smart, bad-boy. Did I mention that he is totally good looking? Too bad he knows it. He is used to getting everything he wants by using his charm or manipulating people. He knows

how to stir things ups. Crap, he either has a good heart hidden underneath it all or he manipulated me too. Hopefully I will find out which in the books to come!

On the other hand, you have Jake Kelly. Jake has a bad reputation and a wild past. He is also very self-deprecating, but he's also a hard worker and has very good manners.

Personally, I like both guys. I am glad I'm not in Brenna's shoes because 1) Converse make my feet look **HUGE!** 2) I can see how hard it would be to choose between the two guys. There is something about Jake that screams comfort and easy, but Saxon is the sexy unknown and things with him would be exciting. I can see why Jake would be the one to choose, but I am rooting for Saxon. I can't help but root for the bad-boy with the hidden heart. (Dang, those bad boys get me every time!!)

Regardless of my favorite, I think both guys have **A LOT** of growing up to do, and I don't think either is ready for a serious lead-to-marriage relationship. Nor do I think that either guy is good enough for Brenna yet. That's why I think this is going to be a great series because over time we can watch them grow and mature.

I love Brenna. She is one of my favorite young adult protagonists. She's smart. She doesn't spend too much time thinking about what other people think of her. She cares about her family and friends. She deeply loves and respects her parents. (I love seeing that in a YA novel. Thank you Reinhardt for showing young adults that it's okay to love and respect your parents!) She is really wise for her age. She is admirable. She is world traveled. She is appreciative. She's a good girl, but she is also strong, sarcastic and smart. She also says what's on her mind and calls people on their bull. Did I say I love her?

I gave Double Clutch by Liz Reinhardt **4 STARS**. I honestly went back and forth between **3 STARS (GOOD)** and **4 STARS (GREAT)**, and here is why:

I considered rating Double Clutch **3 STARS** because there wasn't a lot of conflict and action. I felt the characters individual struggles, especially Brenna's, but it didn't really have a **HUGE** explosion or conflict. If this novel were a stand-alone novel then it would only be **3 STARS**. I think that because this was the first book in the series Reinhardt spent a lot of time introducing background information, key players and establishing relationships. I hope this novel was her way of setting the stage for more to come.

I am giving this book **4 STARS** because I really enjoyed reading this novel and I think this series has a lot of potential. I am **REALY** looking forward to the next book. The main thing I am looking for in **Junk Miles**, the sequel to Double Clutch, is some conflict and some action.

-XOXO

READING, EATING AND DREAMING

Reynje says

One of the things I love most about books and reading is the fact that they're so subjective. Each person brings to their reading experience something personal and unique, and leaves with a slightly different interpretation. Add to this individual tastes and preferences, and the field of opinion gets fascinatingly broad. For every person who loves fantasy, there is someone who prefers contemporary. For every person who

thinks the love interest is mysterious and enticing, there's someone who thinks s/he's a swaggering arse-hat.

And for those of my friends who adored Double Clutch (and whose opinions I respect and value), there's me.

I have mixed feelings about this story and overall, while I thought it was fun and rather cute in parts, I didn't love it.

But credit where credit is due: this is a solid contemporary, upper YA romance that will probably appeal to fans of Jennifer Echols' work. Double Clutch incorporates a new slant on the general high school scenario, and Brenna is a girl with clear interests and goals. There is a compelling dynamic between the three central characters and the tension between them is well-crafted, the triangulated attraction maintaining enough strength to carry the plot. The love interests are both flawed (view spoiler) and interesting in their own ways, which keeps the realm of possibility wide open and both options viable, rather than the lop-sided and clearly biased triangles to be found in some YA novels.

The story could have been finessed with some tighter editing, particularly of the descriptive and expository passages, which at times get repetitive and tedious. There are portions that go a little too far into the minutiae of Brenna's clothes, surroundings and actions, filling us in on each moment of her day when it's not necessary and slowing the pacing down to a crawl. (This is also the first time I've seen the adjective "awesomely" used in print. Or e-ink. Whatever.)

Conversely, Reinhardt writes great dialogue – the voices of her teen characters feel authentic and lend a sense of normality to a situation which feels, honestly, more wish-fulfilment than strictly realistic. (Unless I am just the odd one out here, and everyone else found themselves at the centre of a steamy attraction-fest at 15?) But if the intention is to create an, er, gripping scenario balanced on a knife edge of secrets, past conflict and undeniable chemistry, then I think the goal is achieved and then some. It will be interesting to see whether this strong tension can be sustained over the course of two additional books without labouring the triangle into tortuously back-and-forth territory.

Yet, there is something about this story that I balked at. For a book that I believe is intended to be sex-positive and up-front about physical intimacy, I found that message was muddied by some conflicting and unflattering portrayals of other characters. I really don't want to start on a particular scene where a group of girls are described as practically "clawing and hissing" in their jealous rage and generally depicted as one-note, scantily-clad, "back-stabbing hooker want-to-be's" because I could talk for hours about how much this bothers me. Particularly as it seems to serve to highlight the division between Brenna as "good" and these girls from Jake's past as "bad". While Brianna is accepting of Jake's past sexual experiences (view spoiler) I feel like that is damaged by the (conscious or unconscious) demonising of the girls who took part. It (possibly unintentionally) reinforced an archaic and stereotypical double standard, and undoes much of the book's otherwise positive and open attitude.

Interestingly I found the story between Jake and Saxon more intriguing than their respective interactions with Brenna, and I hope that the sequel delves further into their relationship, rather than just spinning out the romantic angst.

I'm willing to chalk this one up to just being "not for me". A few of my friends have enjoyed this, and I'd recommend it to those looking for an entertaining YA romance with good chemistry between the characters.

Kristin (KC) - Traveling Sister says

4.5 Stars

Double Clutch takes a commonly used topic, such as a love triangle, and swings it from the ordinary into the extraordinary. I was entranced by the natural feel of the dialogue and the realistic ease of the characters' interactions. I certainly had a hard time putting this book down.

I absolutely love **Brenna** and felt she was the perfect portrayal of a teenaged girl in high school. She's smart, strong, and has a refreshingly healthy relationship with her mother. She's mature, but to a believable extent that I feel a lot of YA books tend to lack. She has self-respect and shows concern for her grades, but becomes conflicted when she meets two amazing boys on the very same day...

Saxon is your typical bad-boy: crude, arrogant, sexy, and so alluring that Brenna finds it difficult to breathe normally in his presence. He's bad news, but there's some definite sweetness beneath his rough persona.

Jake is gorgeous, kind-hearted, caring, and protective without being possessive. He's incredibly vulnerable and is also hiding a mysterious past. These two heroes could not be more different, but they're both vying for the attention of Brenna.

Reinhardt really knows how to paint a picture with words; those little flirty, nervous, uncertain-what-the-other-is-thinking moments transported me back to my teen years and made me giddy. The level of steam definitely turns this into a mature read with generous descriptions that provided endless ear-to-ear grins!

This story presents the ultimate love triangle without taking the betrayal and lies to an unforgivable level. It's executed gracefully, and although its purpose forms the plot, it also poses a question: When deciding on love, is the obvious, sensible, least threatening choice always the right one? Although Brenna does choose one boy over the other in this story, the author leaves her option for the other intriguingly open. I cannot wait to see how this triangle develops in the books ahead!

Book Stats:

- ? **Genre/Category:** YA Mature
 - ? **Steam Caliber:** Moderate/Very sexy
 - ? **Romance:** Love triangle
 - ? **Characters:** Believable, life-like, lovable.
 - ? **Plot:** Two boys struggle for the love of one girl.
 - ? **Writing:** Engaging, addictive, fluid.
 - ? **POV:** 1st Person: Heroine
 - ? **Cliffhanger:** Mild. Story left open.
 - ? **Next Installment:** Follow up.
-

AJ says

What a fantastic book! I wouldn't have thought that a YA book about a (pretty much drama-free) love triangle would pack such a punch, but it absolutely does.

Brenna is new to town, and on her first day at school she meets moody bad boy, Saxon. She feels an instant connection to him, but is disappointed to see him with a girl hanging off him, talking about their date that night. Later that day she meets the boy from the wrong side of the tracks, Jake. Also drawn to him, Jake immediately puts her at ease, and they fall into an easy relationship. But as things progress with him she discovers that the two boys in her life share a troubled past, and Saxon just refuses to go away...

What I loved about this book is that it's so real, and incredibly honest. The characters are all great, likeable and realistic, and they actually speak like their age! In so many books, teenagers talk and banter like witty 20-30 year olds, but these kids actually sounded like kids - intelligent and mature, sure, but still very much teenagers. And it was so nice to read a book for a change where nobody is deeply traumatised, or dealing with major issues (although the boys aren't exactly pure and innocent, and there are secrets revealed which throw some twists into the storyline). Brenna is just a normal girl, with a happy family life. She is confident, honest and straightforward, and she's torn between two great guys – both of whom I love just a little bit... okay, I love them heaps.

Oh I'm torn, I'm sooooo torn!! I can usually spot the perfect couple in a love triangle straight away, because I always fall for the guy that ends up with the girl, and in this case I thought I had it picked early, but as I got to know Saxon and Jake, I loved them both and suddenly it wasn't so clear. Then as things started to develop I strongly leaned in one direction, and suddenly it all shifted and I didn't know what the hell to think! I'm pretty sure I have a favourite, but the thought of either of these guys getting their hearts broken just devastates me! They are both amazing in their own ways, and I can absolutely sympathise with Brenna's dilemma over having strong feelings for one guy while dating another. Her actions and thought processes are so well explained, that you understand what she's feeling and why she makes the decisions that she does. And through it all there is no stupidness, and no games. Everybody is up front and honest and I love that!

"It's not just a damn game. Whatever it is that I feel for you is more real than anything I've ever felt before."

...

"I don't want to be your God damn friend"

The writing is beautiful. It flows easily, and the pacing of the story is perfect. Reinhardt really captures the feeling of first love (and a few other firsts) so brilliantly, it was like living it all over again. And even though the story is told from Brenna's POV, the openness of the characters lets you know exactly what they're going through, and you experience everything right along with them.

I absolutely loved it and can't wait to continue on with the next book.

4.5 gorgeous stars!

Colleen Hoover says

AAAAHHHH, Saxon, Saxon, Saxon. I'm gonna get me some of that. I hope beyond hope that the author of this book will write me into a scene with him. I love me some bad boy.

As for the book, it was so good I am immediately starting on the next one. Loved the dialogue, the pacing, the honesty. The characters were so real. Loved the relationship between Brenna and her mother. It's nice to see a mother/daughter relationship written in a different way than most YA books nowadays. Five STARS!!!!!! Can't wait to read Junk Miles.

Katie Mills says

Brenna Blixen is living a double life. She goes to two different schools- regular public school in the morning and the technical institute in the afternoon as a participant of the program 'Share Time'. She has two sets of teachers, two sets of friends and two very different boys vying for her attention.

But what happens when the two worlds collide? Brenna might discover that the lines that connect Saxon and Jake could make or break her relationship with either.

The pacing in Double Clutch was fantastic, the characters charismatic (Jake and Saxon were just awesome. I totally wanted them both. I mean *ahem*I wanted her to end up with both. Of course.) and the dialogue authentic. I honestly enjoyed every minute.

This book has officially become my love-triangle crack-- totally addictive, sexy, and Reinhardt captures the exhilaration of falling in love for the first time perfectly.

'Double Clutch' is the oreo cream without the cookie; made up of only the good stuff I find myself constantly looking for in other books.

Congratulations Liz on a job well done! Wishing you tons of success and I look forward to reading your future books!

Wendy Darling says

Gosh, this book is so freaking cute, I can't even stand it. We all can use a little romance now and then, but not many contemporary YA love stories stand out as anything particularly memorable, which is why I normally prefer to see them cloaked among werewolves and angels and other such distractions.

Brenna Blixen doesn't need supernatural beings to keep our attention, however. This smart and focused heroine has plenty of drama in her life, what with starting all over again at her school after being abroad for a year. She's also attracted to two very different boys: the arrogant, too-sexy-for-his-own-good Saxon, and the hot but shy Jake. Both boys pursue Brenna with enjoyable focus, and as things heat up in the two different relationships, she discovers that everyone's hiding secrets...and the two boys even have a complicated history of their own.

I didn't expect to enjoy this book as much as I did, but it quickly became one of my favorite guilty pleasures.

Love triangles are rarely well-done, but it's easy to see why Brenna likes both boys in different ways--and why they like her, too. She's smart-mouthed but kind, responsible but spontaneous, and just seems like an all-around nice girl who'd be fun to hang out with. I liked that even though the story is very much centered on the romance, Brenna has a balanced life and cares about things other than just boys. Her parents and friends are great, she thinks about school and about her future, and she doesn't allow herself to be walked all over. Ever.

I love that Brenna goes on blessedly normal dates, sneaks her boyfriend into her room, and tries to be a good person in handling her attraction to these guys without being a boring old goody-goody. One of the things debut author Liz Reinhardt deserves big credit for is that this is probably the most explicit and realistic depictions of teen sexuality I've ever read. It's also HOT. And fun. And the characters actually talk about sex, which is fantastic.

The two boys are also mouth-wateringly adorable. They're both seriously cute, Saxon with his careless demeanor and how he's attuned to Brenna's personality, and Jake with his sweet uncertainty and absolute devotion. (I almost hate to say this, but the name *whispers* *Tucker Avery* floated into my head more than once...) Neither boy is even close to perfect, though, which makes for some uncomfortable moments and history, but also some fairly realistic ones, including some wince-inducing bluntness from Saxon in particular. I liked that, aside from a number of hot and heavy make-out scenes, there is also unexpected depth and emotion in this story. These characters are layered and feel very real; this book pushed a number of buttons for me, since it makes me terribly sad to hear about kids who don't have enough to eat, as well as incredibly angry when I hear of anyone being mocked for their lack of education or intelligence.

If there's any room for improvement, I'd say that Brenna might be a little *too* adult sometimes in her thinking and her actions, even though I really enjoyed not wanting to smack the heroine for a change. Jake's past is also perhaps explained away a little too simplistically, and there are a lot of references to films that might be considered a bit dated when they're all taken together. None of this really bothered me all that much, however, as the narrative voice is so fresh and funny and thoroughly winning. It just worked for me as a YA romance in a way that few others have ever done. The sequel, *Junk Miles*, wasn't quite as successful for me, but this first installment was one that I really enjoyed.

The next time you're in the mood to wriggle your toes over some adorable dates or swoon over some cute guys, consider giving *Double Clutch* a try! I think most fans of contemporary YA romance will fall in love with it in a big way.

About the Book:

Double Clutch is available for ereaders for just \$4.99 for Kindle or as a paperback from Amazon.

That's right, this is a self-published novel, and aside from a couple of minor typos, it's actually more polished than many traditionally published books on the market. Although I do support indie authors, I rarely respond to indie review requests these days since I receive so many. What caught my attention about Liz's note, however, was her warm and personalized approach, her reference of the Oxford comma in her author profile, and my sneaking suspicion that Brenna's name was a nod to the writer Karen Blixen, aka Isak Dinesen. I was right about that reference, and I was right to give this book a chance. I hope that if you're a romance lover, you will, too.

This review also appears in The Midnight Garden. A review copy was provided by the author.

Calia says

Ahhh.... thats the sound of me relishing over this ah-mazing book.

I can't say that there is ONE character or scene that kept this book together. Because lets admit that, that usually happens in novels. We love one scene, or something in the book, and it keeps us going in the end. And when you've finished reading, something felt "off" so you give it a 3 or 4 stars.

Umm, won't happen here. Everything combined in this book: the characters, plot, tension, and romance makes it a perfect read.

And thats a lot for me, because I'm the pickiest reader out there. I'm horrible at flipping through many pages, if I'm bored, or just annoyed by a character.

I finished this book within a few hours, and then suffered through a morning with bleary eyes. I wasn't even able to duck from the many blocks and toys being thrown back and forth from my 2 year to my 1 year old. My game was off, and I was left with a Tonka truck floating in my coffee, but all's right in the world when you've read a GREAT book.

I think one of the MAIN reasons I loved this book so much was that there was NO paranormal nothing in this book. Now I love my paranormal books as much as the next person, but it becomes a little too much when thats all there is to read. It was relaxing to read about a NORMAL girl, dealing with average issues.

OH! With a healthy balance of parents? Did I understand that correctly? I enjoyed Thorsten (her step-father) and Brenna `s mom very much. They were a constant in this book. And many times I laughed aloud when Brenna's mom would mention something about her friend Kelsi's low forehead, probably because I remember my mom making a comment about one of my friends. Her mother was concerned and loving, and it was so refreshing.

Brenna. First off was a realistic voice for all girls. Spunky, sarcastic, smart, and went to the beat of her own drum. And the funny thing is, you as the reader SEE that everyone sees that. You don't have to question, "Hmm, why do these two boys like her so much?" It's plain to read, that she's interesting.

It's a unique twist to have her travel abroad for a year, to Denmark. She seems older than her 15 years, and for good reason. Traveling around the world, opens yours eyes in a different way! (Believe ME. At 19, and never stepped foot anywhere. My 5'11" self stuck out like a sore thumb in South Korea.)

Let's move on to this little love triangle, eh?

Saxon. I enjoyed this perfect bad boy from the start. I'm pretty sure if you look up the word "Bad" in any thesaurus, you'll see a picture of Saxon MacLean in the corner, smoking a cigarette. It's a nice little picture.) He's pretty much the school's man whore. But there is so much more to him than people see. And Brenna is the person who ends up seeing right through it.

And there's Jake. Sweet, hott Jake. I just wanna hug him!

Brenna meets him at Technical School (gasp!). But it's there that we get to see the sweetest character ever. Some of the best scenes (IMO) are there. And nothing is more sweeter than when Brenna writes Jake a letter. (Read it, you'll see!) You can see how much he adores Brenna. And I loved it.

You won't really be able to pick a favorite guy, because both are gorgeous, have their own bad boy behaviors and show a side of themselves that no one else has ever seen. And they're both gorgeous...

This is when we bring Saxon and Jake together; these two have a tense history that of course didn't end well at all. Ensure the tension, drama, and romance. And you have a TOP READ for 2011, and for many years to come.

Let's not forget the most important thing about this book. Liz writes this book with YA and mature YA in mind. There's no "kiddie feel" to this book. I went into this book a little skeptical because Brenna is only a sophomore, so I was bracing myself for the "kiddie feel". I was pleasantly surprised. I actually think it's the most truest to form YA book I've read, because it deals with the real emotions, urges, feelings that happens when you're that age.

The most depressing issue is that I'm now gonna have to wait before I dig into another book, because it's just a known fact that when you read one of those perfect books, the one after that can't compare. I think I'll just re-read through my favorite parts like an obsessed stalker.

Now I'm just hoping for a sequel to this book!

If you enjoyed Beautiful Disaster by Jamie McGuire or Thoughtless by S.C. Stephens, you'll adore this book.
