



If

Nina G. Jones

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If is a new adult romance, not erotica.

If...

Someone hadn't scarred my face.

I hadn't followed my dreams to LA.

That tweaker hadn't attacked that homeless guy.

I hadn't invited a stranger over for Thanksgiving.

I hadn't fallen in love.

If I hadn't lost him.

If...

I hadn't gone for that drive.

I saw the world like everyone else.

My "genius" wasn't slowly destroying me.

I had just walked away before I could ever know her.

She hadn't ignited the spark.

If the spark didn't ignite the madness.

This is a new adult romance. NOT erotica. Standalone novel.

If Details

Date : Published March 16th 2015 by Nina G. Jones (first published March 1st 2015)

ISBN :

Author : Nina G. Jones

Format : Paperback 296 pages

Genre : New Adult, Romance, Mental Health, Mental Illness, Contemporary

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From Reader Review If for online ebook

Rejane says

[This one made me so mad. [H left h with no word so that she would continue with her career instead of helping him with his health issues. During their 5 year separation he had what he referred to as "a parade of pussy" (hide spoiler)]

Diana's says

4.5 unconditional love stars!!!
Such an emotionally fueled love story!!

Full review Here

review to follow . .

Ellen ♦ Book Bellas ♦ says

4.5 Stars!! Beautiful NA story, by one of my favorite authors. Very well written and highly recommended. Full review to come!

~ Stéphanie ~ Tied up in Romance ~ says

If took me completely by surprise. I didn't expect the kind of book the author wrote.
Yet I knew it wasn't like my typical read,
Yet there's a warning at the beginning of the book
Yet the author made it perfectly clear this is not a usual romance. And that this is not erotica.

To be honest, I applied to receive the book because I was still high after I read her book Debt at the end of last year. I was captivated by her writing and her ability to have my attention on something that was disturbing.

When I saw there was a new release I didn't look more and I applied, I committed.
When the first warning came, I wondered if the book would still appeal to me. The blurb was vague and I think it was wanted by the author.
I was scared before I even began the book and I was a little embarrassed because I had the sensation I wouldn't like the book.

Yeah I know I'm horrible :(but let me tell you I will NEVER feel this way from now on!
Because no matter what you think about a book, don't let your fear rule you!

Now I'm so happy, I stick to my commitment. I read **If** and once again Ms Jones blew me away!
I don't know what's with her and her writing but from part 2 in this book I was a goner. I couldn't put this book down. Imagine, my boyfriend had to wait to eat because I had lunch to prepare but I couldn't stop reading

As I said, the blurb is vague and I think it's wanted so I'm sorry but you won't have a lot of explanation on my part.

Bird and Ash meets when they are both in a bad place. Their meeting wasn't supposed to happen.
Bird wasn't supposed to interpose between Ash and his aggressors.
Ash wasn't supposed to react when those same aggressors tried to hurt Bird.

But If all this never happened, Bird would have never talked to this stranger she has seen several times at the same spot. A stranger who seemed so lost, so lonely, yet with something that caught her eyes.
If all this never happened, Ash would have never talked to this stranger he has seen several times. He would have never wanted to satisfy his own curiosity because there's something that Bird has and no else :color around her in his grey world

~We can't live our lives with what ifs~

Bird is a 21 years old girl full of dreams. She dance and she is good at it. But in L.A., with the beauty standard you have these day being good is not enough and when you have scars on your face, rejection is a common word for you.

Ash is a 21 years old guy full of regrets and shame. As you can imagine he feels this way because something terrible happened to him but you wouldn't be able to guess what's behind this young man. And I'm afraid if I say a single thing, I'll ruin everything that's beautiful in him and his journey.

Bird is mesmerized by him without really knowing why and I had the same feeling. From the beginning you want to understand why Ash suffers so much, why he seems so off.

Be prepared to be taken in a world full of surprise, full of emotions, full of hurt, full of colors, full of desires.

Nina G. Jones wrote a magnificent book where you can live and feel the emotions. Her writing will carry you away in another place. You will want to look for things that's happening, you will want more information on what she delivers - At least that's what I did while reading.

I don't read those kind of books because I don't deal well with characters who are in pain or who suffer too

much. But here you immediately feel there's more to Ash than the guy who wants to stay hidden.

They are several special subjects that are developed and I don't know the extent of the author involvement. I only know what she told on her social media sites (*that it was special to her that she felt close to*) but she did an outstanding research job. I'm not a specialist but everything is well explained and you won't feel left behind.

She delivers something real, something passionate, something special and you can only let you be taken away with her words

The book is divided in three parts and while part 1 was a little slow for me, when I was in part 2 I understood better why she took her time (nearly 40%) to set down her story, to give us a little background for Bird and Ash.

Throughout the book I smiled, I cried, I was stunned, speechless, surprised. I felt excited, disgusted, in awe, curious, impatient, nervous, sad, and impatient. I had questions, doubts and wishes. And at the end, I was happy. I had a smile on my face for the rest of the day after what I experienced with IF.

~Love is accepting someone, flaws and all~

~ Posted after reading ~

Wow wow wow what did I just read!?? I was not expecting that but this book was totally a magnificent discovery!!

Full review to come but be sure to add this one on your TBR! The books is now live a little early than expected so don't wait to read it ;)

Teasers from author

For more reviews

Future Slayer Girl says

I don't even know what I was expecting from this book, but it totally threw me into an emotional tailspin that had me crying, laughing, and cheering all the characters on.

This is my first book by Nina G. Jones and I'm really glad that it was. I saw she did some more intense stuff and I felt new adult would be safer turf to tread in. Already being in the mood for it after reading a really good Young Adult I dove right in expecting to only read a few chapters before bed, and then didn't get to bed until 3AM having sobbed my eyes out and I woke up with puffy red eyes with people in my looking at me like I was a little cray-cray.

The gist of the story? It is about a dancer that was attacked at a young age and has scars on half her face and a struggling artist dealing with mental illness. Now, this could go either way really. It could've been done totally unsuccessful like I've seen in other books. Most authors don't research and they just dive in with a preconceived notion of what the disorders are. But, Nina made a clear author note that she did her research and wow. The book, the emotions, they just exploded out of the page. I was so IN it. Do you know what I mean? When you really feel the characters so deeply that every little thing that happens to them seems to stab you right in the heart.

I was there for the ride. I was in so much pain, sorrow, and then just agony at one point. I was crying and I couldn't stop even after the characters seemed to move on and the story jumped five years. I was frantic and itches for them to find one another again. My god this story was so passionate and weaved that I saw all those delicate and vivid colors that Ash would see. I just want to say, thank you for this book. I will be buying a physical copy and giving it to my daughter's dance teacher because I KNOW she would appreciate this story as she is a teacher that believes dance has no limits!

Well done and I highly recommend this one to all fans of new adult fiction!

I received a copy via Between the Sheets Promotions to review for the blog tour

Arabella ~?AB?~ says

★★★ 3 Stars ★★★

Bird is a dancer who has moved to LA to pursue her dreams. She is determined to catch a break, despite being turned down due to her physical flaws.

Ash is homeless artist and living on Skid Row. He often watches her on her way home and is drawn to her aura and her beauty. He sees things that others cannot see and when he is feeling at his lowest point, Bird wades in and literally makes him see that there is something worth living for again.

This was a pleasant mature New Adult story which was quite an emotional and deep read about living with mental illness and how to cope with all that life throws at you and the 'What if's'.

The steam level was very low but the emotional connection between Bird and Ash was very strong and although slow at times, I did feel invested in their journey together.

ARC gratefully received from the author in exchange for an honest review

Lana ❄️Dirty Girl Romance❄️ says

3.5 Stars

Most people's souls hide inside of their minds and bodies, but Bird is inside out. Her dancing, with the sweeping transparent ribbons of color that followed, was the embodiment of a divine gift. Her dancing was the closest I could get to heaven without dying.

With Debt being the only other book I've read by this author, this book couldn't be more different. So if you're going into this expecting a mindfuck or steam, think again. It's neither of those. It's an emotional and touching story about two broken souls finding some solace in each other. It truly showcased Nina's range as an author for being to give her readers stories that are so different from one another. It is a book unlike any other I've read lately, and kudos to the author for broaching a subject that isn't touched on enough in the romance genre and not only doing it well but truly bringing some light to something that mainly gets glossed over.

Bird was tempting a live wire and she didn't know it. She stood there, her finger on the switch, without even knowing how close she has come every time we met. She's tempting me...she's triggering me...

Bird is a talented young dancer trying to chase her dreams of becoming professional after moving away from her family home and parents that wanted her to have a more suitable career. While her skill as a dancer is unquestionable, her facial scarring prevents her from landing any starring role. It's truly a source of shame for her and something that she has a difficult time living with....the stares, the whispers, the pity. All she wants is to dance and all she needs is a chance...

Ash is a talented young artist that has given up on his dreams and barely keeping his head above water. Leaving behind his career after a terrible tragedy, he lives on the streets and has long since forgotten about his aspiring in the art world. He just wants to disappear. But in the shadows of his street corner, there's a woman whose colorful aura that calls to him and draws his eye like a magnet. He's perfectly content to just watch her, until a night where the brave girl stands up for him while he's being attacked by a tweaker and he's forced to come out of his shadows to save her life.

I knew no one, not even Jordan could understand what Ash and I had going on. People only

saw us on the outside. My scars, his situation. We saw each other inside out.

Bird and Ash form an unconventional friendship from that day forward. Ash paints her while Bird dances for him, and their presence seems to soothe the other. But Ash is hiding a secret; a secret about who he is and his past, that just may cost them everything.

You don't want me, Bird. You want the idea of me. The quiet artist. The guy who saved you, painted you. But I am a mystery you don't want to solve. I am a question you don't want to answer. It was simpler when it was just you dancing, and me painting.

This is a slow paced love story about two very unique individuals. I really appreciated how different this was from anything else I've read lately. But at the same time, there was also something missing for me to really make this the captivating read that it could have been. Maybe the fact that (view spoiler) I understand that it may have done that way on purpose, but I think having a WHY or WHO to it really would have helped me connect to her more as a character. There was also an event at the very end that seemed to be really unnecessary for the story and was just too much. The book is already emotional enough on it's own, and that particular event didn't seem necessary for the plot or the characters. It was incredibly sad but empty. I really don't understand WHY it needed to happen since it just completely came out of the blue for me.

I did enjoy the story as a whole and the unique situations of both the characters. I didn't even find myself missing the steam since the emotions of it all were perfectly enough on their own, the steam never felt missing. If you're looking for something different from your everyday romance that you find lately, definitely give this one a try. I don't think you'd be disappointed.

ARC courtesy of author in exchange for an honest review

For more reviews visit

Hollie says

This plot is going to have to pick up - Im going to the 50% mark before deciding if this will be a DNF

Made it to the 50% and just didn't care enough about the characters or plot to keep going. DNF

?Yasmine? says

DNF @ 25%

My DNF isn't because the book was 'bad' in any way. But it was more a case of 'too many books too little

time'. I usually give a book to the 25% mark and see how well it's going for me. In this instance, i felt that it wouldn't have been more than a three star read for me due to the fact that it was; very slow starting, and apart from the characters' situations (which felt overblown in the hero's case), they felt bland.

Amanda says

5 'What If' stars

In many ways, this book reminds me of Find You in the Dark that touch on the similar theme, but I would say *If* feels more mature and had more layers and depths to it. Is a story about love, heartbreak, forgiveness and healing.

"'If' is unfulfilled potential. It's dreams that didn't come true."

Bird loves dancing and living with a scarred face. A face that become a major roadblock in her life. But she is tenacious in living up to her dreams to become a successful dancer in LA. A chance encounter with a heroic homeless guy brought on an endless possibilities into her life.

Ash was gifted with an extraordinary talent that make him see the world unlike everybody else. But he is living with a curse. A curse that led to his ultimate downfall. He is homeless. He is a drifter. All he want is to be invisible and to be gone.

"I fight so hard not to exist, but she was forcing me to. She was forcing me to partake in life."

But the girl bursting with the colorful aura beacon him towards her.

"She was a literal star, beaming with light, walking on the earth, gracing it with her presence. She was the light we reached out to grasp, but were never able to touch. That's what Bird was: A fallen star. A dancing star."

Bird and Ash relationship started from her wanting to get to know her homeless savior better and her persistency in engaging him finally wore him out. Their love build from endless hours of dance and paints, they inspire the best in each other.

"You're going to be amazing one day, and I get to watch you grow in front of my eyes."

But what Bird didn't know is her artistic boyfriend is sick. A sickness that is invisible to the naked eye.

"Ash, I just want you to be okay."

Of course, like anybody else, I know Nina G. from her dark erotica Debt. Although *If* is nothing like Debt, is not even an erotica, there isn't any erotic scene at all, but I love every page. Nina was able to paint a vivid pictures with her words that make me immerse in a pool of emotions and feelings. I can picture Bird dance as if she can float and Ash paint like a manic artist. I can feel their selfless love for each other and the heartache over heartache over heartache. Throughout the journey, I am thinking how many times did Nina wanted to torture me, I felt like my heart getting pummel over and over and over. I confess, a large part of the book was depressing, but that's what make everything much more meaningful towards the end. I truly feel the author

versatility by reading two of her books now. She can write a hot as fuck erotica, she can write a tear jerker NA that rip your heart out. What's next Nina?

"Maybe 'If' isn't such a bad word. It's a word that precludes infinite possible."

(view spoiler)

~Dawn~TUG says

**arc received from author in exchange for an honest review by the TUG girls at <http://www.twounrulygirls.com> ..thank you! **

I loved this story..so different from other love stories, raw and emotional. Bravo for taking on love amidst challenges..

Tangerine says

3 STARS

I liked it. I didn't love it but I liked it. I liked the characters and the unique storyline. I found myself doing my own research on Ash's illness because I had never heard of it and I was very intrigued by it and wanted to know more. I really liked that aspect of the story.

The story has three parts. It seemed to drag on a bit and I found myself skimming through some of it. I really enjoyed the first part. There were parts of the story I loved and parts I didn't. Nothing really happens for the first half and then all of a sudden too much is happening and I could never get emotionally involved. There were a lot of grammar errors that threw me off of the story a bit. By the time I finished the book I was just sleepy. The uniqueness of the story kept me going and I liked how it was a mature read and not like most new adult reads.

Aestas Book Blog says

This sounds so UNIQUE!!! Love it!

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I hadn't fallen in love.

If I hadn't lost him.

If...

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My "genius" wasn't slowly destroying me.

I had just walked away before I could ever know her.

She hadn't ignited the spark.

STANDLAONE

Allison ♥?Will Never Conquer Her TBR♥? says

4.25 "What If" stars!

Wow! What an unconventional NA love story! I really enjoyed **If**. I'll preface my review with a word of warning...go in blind. This is the type of book that trickle feeds the reader information so it's very easy to give away plot spoilers. Even more so, spoilers on the characters. Let Nina build their story one sad word at a time.

I can tell you that both characters are flawed. Physically, mentally and emotionally. They carry these flaws on their shoulders daily and both decided to withdraw from family influences for their own reasons. They're both living in LA when **Bird's** work commute causes her to pass by **Ash** on the street. He rarely makes eye contact- always looking to the ground- but something draws her attention to this lonesome-appearing young man. Until one day, she finds herself interrupting a mugging of this detached man. It's not smart but she can't stand by and watch him be attacked by two street thugs- the man not even trying to defend himself. Until the thugs turn on her and the lonely man saves **her** from the attackers. He won't save himself but he'll save her? Why? Does he hate himself so much?

Suddenly this man who chooses to hide in the shadows is brought into light. He's not happy about it.

Ash watches Bird walk by alone, sometimes with her clearly gay friend. She's like light in the darkness for him. She's clearly some sort of dancer. But there's also a sadness about her. Yet her aura is mesmerizing. He sees all sorts of colors in his otherwise gray world when she walks by...

A muse didn't just inspire, I learned, she rips the art out of you like a predator rips out guts. It's messy, it's brutal, but the artist has no choice in the matter. The muse decides."

As a reader of very limited NA books (I can't deal with immature drama), **If** was pleasantly mature. Both H/h are in their early twenties but just trying to make it in this world on their own. The subject matter can be a bit heavy and I loved this book for that. It wasn't immature drama we see in some college type reads. It's about life, the *what if's* that rock our worlds daily. And how we deal with those events. Do we move on or do we shoulder them like a festering wound?

My only issue is I felt it was a bit anti-climatic for a good portion of the book- the day to day slow build of their interactions. But I found in the end, we as readers needed that to truly appreciate the future that be holds them in Part Three of the book- which I devoured, by the way. As a reader that takes NA genre in complete low doses, **this** is the kind I like to read. I was a auto-buy fan of Ms. Jones when I read **Debt** earlier this year- which is, in fact, still my favorite read of 2015. Keep in mind though, this is NOTHING like Debt. It's fairly chaste. The sex scenes are almost all fade to black. But the reader doesn't need it with the plot as heavy as it is. It was perfect in that respect and a good call on her part. I think if she would've made it steamier, it would've taken away the emotional side we get.

A solid, enjoyable read I'd highly recommend for readers looking for more than simple NA fluff. It's different, it's emotional. And you'll actually learn something, which is always a bonus. Bravo, Nina G Jones!

For more reviews, follow us at...

Advanced reader's copy received by author in exchange for an HONEST review. Quotes are taken from pre-published copy and may differ from finished product.

(Thanks Val, for finding me an almost impossible biracial red-headed green-eyed heroine)

The Art of Romance Promotions says

If by N.G. Jones

Everyone calls her Bird since she can remember. An aspiring dancer who can't seem to catch a break. Bird is strong, beautiful inside and out. However, the scars on the outside is what most people see. Bird doesn't have much, but is happy on what she does have. She has a family but aren't very close, but she does have her best friend in the world, Jordan. Jordan is also a dancer and there friendship is stellar. One night a stranger and almost tragedy changes Birds life forever!

His name is Ash, once a brilliant artist now living on the streets of Skid Row. He see her smile, her laughter, she so beautiful to him. BUT he is damaged. Having a constant struggle with mental illness. He never looks up he minds his business and tries to go unnoticed. Ash's doesn't want to be a burden so when Miller, his brother tries to help Ash cannot allow that. When she interferes and is almost hurt it changes his life.

N.G. Jones novel titled If. I am a big fan of N.G. Jones and If, just left me with the biggest amount of respect for this author not only was the novel a piece of art the message is one of the best stories I ever read. This writer has you involved within the first sentence of the prologue. The way these characters make you feel and want to know with all these trial and tribulations with there love over power these powerful life alter issues? N.G. is a amazing story-teller the plot was so original and I didn't see anything coming that happened. The reality of the characters lives were believable. This writers writing style is so smooth and descriptive it is like I watching it play out right in front of my face. This novel with top my best reads of 2015. I totally recommend this novel over and over. My message to the author any title your name is on I and reading I am in love with your masterpieces.

If is a 5 star read!

Reviewed by Yolanda Ann

The Art of Romance Promotions

“ Not until we are lost, do we begin to understand ourselves” Henry David Thoreau

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1 in 10 adults in the United States suffers from depression. And the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) reports that almost 3 percent of the U.S. adult population suffers from bipolar disorder.

- See more at: <http://www.healthline.com/health/ment...>
