

Title: *Sick Kids in Love*
Author: Hannah Moskowitz
Genre: Fiction

Reviewer Name and Grade: Julianna V. 9th Grade

Date Reviewed: August 2, 2020

In the book *Sick Kids in Love* by Hannah Moskowitz, we follow the love story of sixteen-year-olds Isabel Garfinkel and Sasha Sverdlov-Deckler. The story takes place in New York City, more specifically in Queens where the characters live, and at Linefield and West Memorial Hospital where Isabel's father is the physician and chief. Isabel does not come from a big family; she lives in a small apartment with her father. Her mother had just left the family and her sister is in jail. Meanwhile, Sasha lives with his fourteen-year-old sister Nadia, his father, and his two little brothers. His mother had divorced his father, but she still makes visits to his family. Isabel and Sasha are unique because they both have chronic illnesses; Isabel has rheumatoid arthritis and Sasha has Gaucher disease. The two of them meet in the hospital drip room, where patients receive their infusions. It was an awkward meeting at first, considering their conversation was about whether their diseases were fatal or not. However, Isabel could not stop gawking about how handsome Sasha is, with his green eyes and dimpled smile. Isabel has a rule to never date boys, because it is easier and safer for her. But she cannot help having strong feelings about this boy she had just met. The two had planned on meeting each other five months from now, but that quickly changed since they kept bumping into each other at the hospital. As time went on, the two of them grew fond of each other and they were talking and seeing each other almost every day. At first, they were not considered as boyfriend and girlfriend because of Isabel's dating rule, but that quickly changes after the holidays when Sasha confesses his love for Isabel. Throughout the book, we go through the ups and downs of Sasha's and Isabel's relationship. Isabel is more than willing to break her rule about dating just to be with Sasha who she truly loves.

Here are the following questions I answered:

Did the plot (for fiction) keep you interested? For the most part it did. I feel that the beginning of the book had a little slow start, however, towards the middle-end things became a little more interesting. There were many events that kept me hooked to the story. Sometimes I would not want to stop reading since I wanted to know what was going to happen next.

Was the pace of the book too fast, too slow, or just right? As I have mentioned before, the beginning of the book was a little slow, mainly because there was not a lot of interesting things happening. Towards the middle of the book, things began to pick up pace because there were more events happening and the days went by at a quicker pace.

What grade level(s) is this book appropriate for? It is safe to say that this book is appropriate for Grade 9 and above. This book is easy to understand, however it contains mature concepts that would not be suitable for lower grade levels.

What type of reader would you recommend this book to? I would recommend this book to any reader who are teens ages fourteen and above. Anyone who likes to read romance and relationship books would love this book. If you are looking for a shorter, easier read, this is the book for you.

What other information do you think will be helpful for teens to know about this book? I would say that this book is intended for a mature audience. This book contains mature language, sexuality, and drinking. Other than that, it is a great read.

Rating:

I would rate this book *4 stars*. I would not say that this is the best book I have ever read, however it kept me interested with plot and I wanted to know what would happen next. Once I was reaching the end of the book, things became more interesting and I did not want to stop reading. For example, there was one point where Isabel and Sasha were mad at each other because Isabel was not sure if she wanted to be in a relationship or not. They eventually made up and became a couple again. Another exciting part of the book was when Sasha's spleen had ruptured, and he needed immediate surgery. Isabel was nervous for him, and so was I, but everything turned out ok and the surgery was a success. Overall, I am glad I picked up this book to read and review.