



The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak

By Brian Katcher



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Perfect for fans of *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist* and *The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight*, *The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak* is Stonewall Award-winning author Brian Katcher's hilarious he said/she said romance about two teens discovering themselves on an out-of-this-world accidental first date at a sci-fi convention.

When Ana Watson's brother ditches a high school trip to run wild at Washington, type-A Ana knows that she must find him or risk her last shot at freedom from her extra-controlling parents.

In her desperation, she's forced to enlist the last person she'd ever want to spend time with—slacker Zak Duquette—to help find her brother before morning comes.

But over the course of the night, while being chased by hordes of costumed Vikings and zombies, Ana and Zak begin to open up to each other. Soon, what starts as the most insane nerdfighter manhunt transforms into so much more. . . .

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When Ana Watson's brother ditches a high school trip to run wild at Washingcon, type-A Ana knows that she must find him or risk her last shot at freedom from her extra-controlling parents.

In her desperation, she's forced to enlist the last person she'd ever want to spend time with—slacker Zak Duquette—to help find her brother before morning comes.

But over the course of the night, while being chased by hordes of costumed Vikings and zombies, Ana and Zak begin to open up to each other. Soon, what starts as the most insane nerdfighter manhunt transforms into so much more. . . .

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—When slacker and sci-fi enthusiast Zak Duquette meets type-A scholar Ana Watson, he is strangely attracted; unfortunately, Ana has no time for anything but academics, as her parents' demands for perfection will ensure. But the two are forced to work together when Zak is coerced by a teacher to join the quiz bowl team with Ana and her whiz-kid younger brother, Clayton. Unfortunately for Zak, the quiz bowl takes place on the same weekend as WashingCon—the sci-fi convention where Zak has had many amazing adventures every year. After Zak extols the glories of the fest, Clayton sneaks away to experience it for himself. In order to keep Clayton's disappearance from her overly controlling parents, Ana must team up with Zak and brave the gathering of geeks, zombies, Vikings, and aliens to find her brother before curfew. In alternating chapters, as they meet one obstacle after another, this seemingly incongruous couple slowly begins to open up and to appreciate each other's talents. While Zak's devil-may-care attitude may be a response to his father's death and his mother's rather hasty marriage to a man with whom he is still not comfortable, Ana feels pressured by her parents to make up for her sister's transgressions that caused her to be banished from their home years ago. Strong personalities, a cast of out-of-this-world characters, and a fast-paced manhunt in an imaginative setting make this an appealing title for tweens and teens. VERDICT A zany romantic comedy for pop culture geeks and "Con" enthusiasts.—MaryAnn Karre, West Middle School, Binghamton, NY

Review

“With perfect comic timing and outrageous twists, *The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak* will have you cheering for the underdog.” (Robin Constantine, author of *The Promise of Amazing*)

“A love letter to fanboys and fangirls everywhere. On the surface, the story is a lighthearted and entertaining romance, but serious undertones explore the fractured side of parent-child relationships and misfit characters desperate to find a tribe. A delightful romp for anyone still figuring out where they belong.” (Publishers Weekly)

“This well-paced novel is an excellent combination of self-discovery and adventure. Give this to fans of *Eleanor and Park* or *Nick and Norah*.” (Booklist)

“There is something very sweet and nerdy about the entire premise of the story, where the upside-down rules of cosplay and gaming conventions like Washingcon allow the outsiders to be heroes.” (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

“Fans of *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist* will find contentment here.” (Kirkus)

“A zany romantic comedy for pop culture geeks and ‘Con’ enthusiasts.” (School Library Journal)

“A nerd-friendly adventure story with a gooey, sweet romance center.” (Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books)

From the Back Cover

The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak is Stonewall Book Award-winning author Brian Katcher's hilarious he said/she said romance about two teens discovering themselves on an out-of-this-world accidental first

date.

It all begins when Ana Watson's brother, Clayton, ditches the quiz bowl semifinals to go to the Washington sci-fi convention on what *should* have been a normal, résumé-building high school trip.

If slacker Zak Duquette hadn't talked up the geek fan fest so much, maybe Clayton wouldn't have broken the rules or jeopardized Ana's last shot at freedom from her uptight parents.

Now, teaming up with Duquette is the only way for Ana to chase down Clayton in the sea of zombies, bikini-clad princesses, and Smurfs. After all, *one does not simply walk into Washington*.

But in spite of Zak's devil-may-care attitude, he may have more in common with Ana than she thinks. Ana and Zak certainly don't expect the long, crazy night, which begins as a nerdfighter manhunt, to transform into so much more. . . .

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joshua Rodrigue:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. As it is known to us that book is very important usually. The book The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak seemed to be making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It doesn't matter what advantages for you. The e-book The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak is not only giving you much more new information but also for being your friend when you experience bored. You can spend your spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship with the book The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak. You never experience lose out for everything if you read some books.

Juan Harrell:

Here thing why that The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak are different and reliable to be yours. First of all studying a book is good nevertheless it depends in the content than it which is the content is as delightful as food or not. The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak giving you information deeper as different ways, you can find any guide out there but there is no book that similar with The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak. It gives you thrill studying journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing that happened in the world which is might be can be happened around you. You can actually bring everywhere like in area, café, or even in your approach home by train. When you are having difficulties in bringing the printed book maybe the form of The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak in e-book can be your option.

Sharon Novick:

Is it anyone who having spare time subsequently spend it whole day simply by watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something new? This The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak can be the answer, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this fresh era is common not a geek activity. So what these books have than the others?

Alex Jose:

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got pupils? We believe that that query was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. So you know that little person such as reading or as studying become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important in addition to book as to be the factor. Book is important thing to incorporate you knowledge, except your own teacher or lecturer. You see good news or update with regards to something by book. A substantial number of sorts of books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them is actually The Improbable Theory of Ana and Zak.

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