



Your Voice Is All I Hear

By Leah Scheier



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April won't let Jonah go without a fight. He's her boyfriend-her best friend. She'll do anything to keep him safe. But as Jonah slips into a dark depression, trying to escape the traumatic past that haunts him, April is torn. To protect Jonah, she risks losing everything: family, friends, an opportunity to attend a prestigious music school. How much must she sacrifice? And will her voice be loud enough to drown out the dissenters-and the ones in his head?

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Your Voice Is All I Hear By Leah Scheier Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Shy and insecure April is distraught when her best friend transfers to a new school; although she practices ways to start conversations with her peers, she finds it challenging to make lasting friendships. April is stunned when handsome new student Jonah flirts with her and rejects the advances of a more popular student. Jonah seems to hear noises audible only to him, yet April and his family accept his explanations until he becomes increasingly more paranoid and prone to violent outbursts, which results in inpatient psychiatric treatment. Reluctance shown by April and his family to admit that his behavior is psychotic is realistic and genuinely felt. Although there is no "happily ever after" ending for the two teens, there is hope that Jonah can learn to cope with schizophrenia. Jonah's paranoia, symptoms of schizophrenia, and thwarted attempts at treatment are raw yet sensitively depicted. Contemporary references to pop culture heighten the novel's immediacy, although a reference to "a list of phone numbers" culled by a new student is a miss. Markers of Jewish identity are sprinkled throughout the story; references to shopping for Hanukkah presents and lighting Sabbath candles, as well as mentions of Passover, will appeal to communities in need of books that feature religious diversity. Some teens may find the beginning sluggish, but patient readers will be drawn into the crisis between April and Jonah. A brief author's note mentions online resources for more information about schizophrenia. VERDICT Recommended for larger collections in which books about mental illness are in demand.—Jennifer Schultz, Fauquier County Public Library, Warrenton, VA

Review

Scheier's narrative is both sensitive and a powerhouse, addressing family dysfunction, mental health, bullying, and religion without coming across as a "problem novel." Compellingly written, this heart-wrenching tale is inhabited by complex, fully realized characters and will appeal to fans of Sarah Dessen. While Scheier offers no easy answers, she does give the best gift—hope. An affecting, well-crafted story that will stay with readers long after the final page. **(Starred Review) - BOOKLIST**

"A story of the human heart and the tortured mind. Jonah's plight will touch your soul." - *Tabitha Suzuma, author of Forbidden*

"Your Voice is All I Hear gives a jarring look at what it means to lose everything while trying to fight off your demons." - *The Young Folks*

"With engaging writing style, this book is recommended to those who want to read a book that could entertain and educate at the same time." - *Let's Say It's a Blog*

"With twists and turns galore, I can say that YOUR VOICE IS ALL I HEAR highly impressed me. Scheier writes the characters flawlessly and executes the plot well, including foreshadowing in the beginning and flashbacks throughout that make it all the more suspenseful....Overall, this is a book that can certainly be enjoyed by all young adults and adults, and it will spark very interesting conversation and thoughts, afterwards.

" - *Teen Reads*

"*Your Voice Is All I Hear* is a startling story about, first love, mental illness and discovering who you are.... Fans of Rainbow Rowell and All the Bright Places by Jennifer Niven, will fall head over heels in love with this story." - *Dark Readers*

" Readers are carried on an emotional roller coaster, which is often thrilling and beautiful, yet heart-wrenching too. " - *VOYA*

"Incredibly resonant, obviously well researched and very cleverly constructed for maximum effect, *Your Voice Is All I Hear* is both an important and very readable tale, a Young Adult novel tackling some topical and very important issues, the ending had me in pieces. This is one that will definitely stay with me for a very long time and as such is highly recommended." - *Liz Loves Books*

"I highly suggest this novel to anyone that loves deep, captivating reads. A beautifully written story, *Your Voice Is All I Hear* should be falling off shelves and into eagerly awaiting hands." - *A Leisure Moment*

"An affecting, well-crafted story that will stay with readers long after the final page." - *Booklist*

"[A]n intense portrait of the unpredictability of schizophrenia and the toll it takes on those close to those who have it." - *Publishers Weekly*

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Prologue

I know my way around the mental hospital.

I doubt most of the girls in my neighborhood could claim that, even though many of us lived just a few minutes from its leafy, sterile grounds, and some of us picnicked on the lawn outside its gate during summer break.

By the end of tenth grade, I knew Shady Grove Hospital better than I knew my school. I knew that the security guard's name was Carla and that she'd worked at her depressing post since the place was built. I knew the quiet path behind the topiary garden where I could wait until visiting hours began and she let me in. I'd memorized the shape and color of his shadow behind the dark-red curtains, and I knew where I had to stand so he could see me from his eleventh-story window. From that distant spot, I could even guess how well the medicine was working for him that day; I could tell what kind of visit it would be by counting the paces of his shadow.

I had the place mapped out, his daily routine memorized, the doctors' names and call schedule, every pointless detail carefully recorded in his special little book. He'd given me those notes as if they were classified secrets, the papers wrapped in strips of hospital linen sealed together with bubble gum, long wads of partially chewed Wrigley's tied into a crisscrossed mesh. That tattered spiral notebook was crammed with data he'd gathered over months: patients' names and histories, nurses' phone numbers, the cleaning crew's shift hours. I would never know how these bits of information came together for him or how he even found them out. But somewhere in these random nothings, he'd put together a story for me, a clue of how to get to him, a coded message that, for some reason, he believed only I could read. I was the one he trusted, the only one who had not betrayed him. I was the one he loved, the only one who believed him, even when his own mother had locked him up and thrown away the key.

And now, nearly three months after they'd taken him away, I was finally ready. I was going to march up to the security window, look into the tired guard's blurry eyes, state my name and the name of the patient I was visiting, and hear the buzz and click of the locked gate sliding open. I was going to walk down the white-tiled hallway, knock on his doctor's office door, slam his secret notebook on her desk, and make her read it, make her understand what he was hiding, make her see what only I had seen.

I was finally going to do it.

I was going to betray him.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Debra Richardson:

This Your Voice Is All I Hear book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is definitely information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This particular Your Voice Is All I Hear without we realize teach the one who examining it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't end up being worry Your Voice Is All I Hear can bring if you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even telephone. This Your Voice Is All I Hear having great arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

Willard Sarvis:

The actual book Your Voice Is All I Hear has a lot details on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was written by the very famous author. Tom makes some research prior to write this book. This book very easy to read you may get the point easily after scanning this book.

Kathleen King:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always aim to and must have the time or they will get large amount of stress from both day to day life and work. So , once we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer may unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative within spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is actually Your Voice Is All I Hear.

Daniel White:

Beside that Your Voice Is All I Hear in your phone, it may give you a way to get closer to the new knowledge or data. The information and the knowledge you might got here is fresh through the oven so don't be worry if you feel like an aged people live in narrow town. It is good thing to have Your Voice Is All I Hear because this book offers to you readable information. Do you sometimes have book but you would not get what it's exactly about. Oh come on, that would not happen if you have this in your hand. The Enjoyable arrangement here cannot be questionable, like treasuring beautiful island. Techniques you still want to miss it? Find this book and read it from right now!

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