



# Shatter Me

*Tahereh Mafi*

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## **Shatter Me** Tahereh Mafi

Juliette hasn't touched anyone in exactly 264 days.

The last time she did, it was an accident, but The Reestablishment locked her up for murder. No one knows why Juliette's touch is fatal. As long as she doesn't hurt anyone else, no one really cares. The world is too busy crumbling to pieces to pay attention to a 17-year-old girl. Diseases are destroying the population, food is hard to find, birds don't fly anymore, and the clouds are the wrong color.

The Reestablishment said their way was the only way to fix things, so they threw Juliette in a cell. Now so many people are dead that the survivors are whispering war – and The Reestablishment has changed its mind. Maybe Juliette is more than a tortured soul stuffed into a poisonous body. Maybe she's exactly what they need right now.

Juliette has to make a choice: Be a weapon. Or be a warrior.

## **Shatter Me Details**

Date : Published October 2nd 2012 by HarperCollins (first published November 15th 2011)

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Author : Tahereh Mafi

Format : Paperback 338 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Science Fiction, Dystopia, Romance, Fantasy

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# From Reader Review Shatter Me for online ebook

## Emily (Books with Emily Fox) says

(2.5?) The lack of world building is one of my main issues with this book (even though it seems like things will be explained in book 2... a full book with little world building is boring!).

I didn't love the writing and the characters felt very one dimensional.

Kinda felt like another YA dystopian world with a love triangle and an incredibly pretty main character - even after spending over 6 months isolated, underfed... and the fact that she hasn't seen herself in the mirror in 3 years... Her beauty is mentioned in pretty awkward moments.

If it wasn't for the fact that people say the series becomes way better after book 1 I would stop but I'll give the second book a try!

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## Shannon says

I always wonder about raindrops.

I wonder about how they're always falling down, tripping over their own feet, breaking their legs and forgetting their parachutes as they tumble right out of the sky toward an uncertain end.

It's like someone is emptying their pockets over the earth and doesn't seem to care where the contents fall, doesn't seem to care that the raindrops burst when they hit the ground, that they shatter when they fall to the floor, that people curse the days the drops dare to tap on their doors.

Let me translate what Mafi was trying to say; "It was raining."

**This is one of, if not THE major problem** of *Shatter Me*; she tries too hard to be clever and poetic and the story gets muddled along the way.

I apologize for not going more in depth with this review, but I read this book over three months ago now and all I remember is that **I hated it and it was incredibly poorly written**. I think my status updates should show this pretty clearly, but to make this easier to see, I've decided to write this somewhat brief review and sort through a few of my updates as well.

A device Mafi chooses to use early on is ~~erossing~~ striking out the words that "crazy" Juliette is "really" thinking. As the story goes on this device gets used less and less and so it feels more like Mafi just used it in the beginning for fun and to make her book look different from the rest of the young adult books out there, which, unfortunately, it is NOT, especially when you get to the romance. And that is what this story is: **a romance**, and a disgustingly sappy one at that.

I don't think you'll be able to believe these **favorite quotes of mine** until you read them for yourself:

"I'd like to cry into his eyes."

"His body presses closer and I realize I'm paying attention to nothing but the dandelions blowing wishes in my lungs."

"I'm suddenly desperate to drink in every drop of his being, desperate to savor every moment I've never known before. I suddenly worry that there's an expiration date on this phenomenon.

The possibility of losing him

The possibility of losing him

The possibility of losing him is 100 years of solitude I don't want to imagine.

Realization is a pendulum the size of the moon. It won't stop slamming into me."

"His heart is racing so fast I can't distinguish it from my own. It's 5,000 degrees in the air between us."

"I've run out of words. My pockets are full of letters I can't string together."

"I want to fall asleep to the sound of his heart beating in the atmosphere."

"His eyes are a midnight moment filled with memories, the only windows into my world."

"My heart fails for a moment.

There are 400 cotton balls caught in my windpipe."

"James and Adam glance back at me and I melt into pink Play-Doh."

"I'm up.

Spinning.

Scanning.

Scared.

They found us is the only thing I can think of. My stomach is a flimsy crepe, my heart a raging woodpecker, my blood a river of anxiety."

"It's raining today. The sky is weeping for us."

"His lips are spelling secrets and my ears are spilling ink, staining my skin with his stories."

"The sun is revolving around the moon when he responds."

"I offer him a smile. Try to keep my organs from falling out. Hope the holes in my head aren't showing."

"My mouth is sitting on my kneecaps."

"My neck snaps up to meet his dark eyes, his smooth voice, silky and strong."

"My jaw is dangling from my shoelace."

"I'm blushing through my bones."

"Adam pulls back just a tiny bit. Kisses my bottom lip. Bites it for just a second. His skin is 100 degrees hotter than it was a moment ago. His lips are pressed against my neck and my hands are on a journey down his upper body and I'm wondering why there are so many freight trains in my heart, why his chest is a broken

harmonica."

And that, my friends, is that. **I thought it was awful.** Even if I didn't think the writing was trite and overwrought, later on it really starts to feel like she's borrowing heavily from the X-Men mythos (even though she claims she's never even seen the movies.) If you read the few quotes I've listed above and they're not your cup of tea, I'd say skip this one and try something else. Or maybe watch one of the X-Men movies instead; you'll get a much better portrayal of Rogue and a steamier love story. Mmm ... Wolverine.

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## Whitney Atkinson says

### November 2017

I picked this back up on a whim because I've been dealing with anxiety lately and wanted to return to something comforting, so I decided to annotate one of my paperback copies. And I gotta say, It's.... weird returning to book one. Ignite Me is my favorite book of all time, and rereading that book is such an immersive experience that I always come out of feeling empowered. This book, on the other hand, holds such a special place in my heart because it's so relatable that it hurts. From Juliette's panic to her awkwardness to her resilience to the writing style, everything just hurts so good. There's parts of me that I see in Juliette, and there's parts of Juliette that I wish I could be better at. It's just such a refreshing and inspirational book to read because it's about someone who has been handed the shittiest circumstances and still looks for the best in others, perseveres, and demands what's right for her. It's about learning to trust and realizing your worth and giving people second chances. FUCK i'm about to cry typing this review. I love Juliette so much and I love Tahereh even more for sharing a story that touches the deepest corners of my heart. It's truly a life-changing book for me.

I've always read this as the story of a sad, self-conscious, self-loathing girl learning to see past obstacles to find love in herself and to let others in. however, i haven't read this since summer 2016, so my experience of reading this after the election & other #stressful political happenings opened my eyes to a completely new underside of the story. It had always been visible to me but was it never at the forefront, but this time I noticed it so vividly: this is also the story about a deeply hurt and angry girl who wants justice. People always criticize Juliette for being weak and annoying, especially in Unravel Me, but when she pushes back against her fear and stands up for herself, it's jaw-dropping. I envy her ability to know what's best for her and hold others' happiness and safety above her own even though she's gone through so much turmoil and deserves to be the person being looked out for. I used to think that Juliette gets suddenly really strong in Ignite Me, but reading this closely just showed how ready she was for that transformation. In my annotated editions, I use blue highlighter to mark parts where Juliette is really badass, and I didn't expect to use it a ton in this one, but it's everywhere. Juliette is a pure and fearless motherfucker. Even in book one she has powerful quotes like "I'm not yours to want," and it challenges all the ideas Warner tries to install into her head.

Which is where this book gets slippery. It's getting really, really difficult for me to reconcile Warner's actions in book one. I've definitely had others question how I ship Juliette with Warner after all he's put Juliette through in this book, and it's a valid concern. Every time I think about this book, i'm just kinda like "hahaha problematic warner but whatever." But the more I reread, especially after ignite me came out, and ESPECIALLY during this particular reread, the more questions I have that I can only hope will now be explained in restore me. Don't get me wrong, this book still means so much to me because of juliette, but there's no possible way for me to read this book with the mindset "omg i love warner!!" because he's literally the villain and he does and says so many problematic, manipulative things. Honestly, I don't think

it's fair to justify everything Warner does. While rereading this I was actually shocked at the amount of nasty things he says to her, that I obviously must have forgotten or blocked from my memory. Things like telling her she'll be miserable if she leaves him because no one else will want her, calling her a monster, professing his love for her even when she's clearly uncomfortable. In *Unravel Me* and *Ignite Me* he explains why he did these things and says that he regrets doing it, but... it seems to go *so* far in this book. I almost theorize that Tahereh must have written Warner in book 1 to continue being a villain throughout the series, but there's way too many threads that suggest otherwise (ie. the introduction of the angst behind Warner's mom, the fact that she felt "electricity" during their kiss, etc.)

I feel like I could write an essay about this topic: the inconsistencies of Warner's personality, and whether or not it's justifiable to forgive him for his "misjudgments" of Juliette. It's just so strange to me that Adam & Kenji can say "Warner is a lot of things, but he's not stupid," and yet Warner misreads her SO horribly. I mean, in the scene that he corners her and kisses her, he's literally saying "I want you to choose me" and "I love you" and later admits that he thought she was into it, **EVEN THOUGH** she literally said "You're sick/you're a monster/etc." and physically tried to punch him before he pinned her to the wall. If he's so smart, then why couldn't he tell that every time he talks to her, she's afraid and disgusted? Is it really that easy to mistake fear for excitement? Disgust for nervousness?

His behavior is so coercive and manipulative, and even though I know he was just trying to get a reaction out of her so that she would abandon her fear and finally use her power, there's not nearly enough of an apology as I would expect for things of this magnitude. The reason why I don't consider Warner an outright misogynist is an incredibly nuanced (and long) discussion, but the difference between him and, say, a Colleen Hoover character is that while Warner is saying and doing problematic things, he is also being cast in a problematic light. He is literally the villain of this story for putting her in those situations. Had Juliette been like "omg he's pinning me against a wall and threatening me, he's so dominating <3" then that would be a lot more concerning. But I'm gonna have to reread *Unravel Me* as well to refresh my memory on how Warner addresses these actions and words because I really don't think he apologized or explained himself well enough, and I think it's totally valid for Juliette to absolutely roast him in *Restore Me* for treating her so shittily. My outrage about it is fresh though, and maybe Juliette comes to terms with his actions in a later book that I've forgotten about.

Also? Drag me, but Adam doesn't get enough credit in this book. I know we all love to shit on him--myself included--for the direction he goes in *Ignite Me*, but his place in her journey of self-discovery is vital. Imagine this book without Adam, without that glimmer of hope and self-love that he installs in her. He's the first person to reassure her of herself and humanize her. Sure, they're not right for each other in the end, but it's not okay to dismiss their entire relationship as bullshit, because he **DID** help her see herself as something other than a monster, and I can't even imagine what this series would have been like if it were only Juliette brooding alone in her room, dreading Warner, stuck there until Warner was forced to tell her the truth about his mom or until Anderson showed up to ask what was taking so long. Idk. There's so many important quotes from Adam in this book. Sometimes it falls into the type of narrative that feels like "ugghhhh, she needed a boy to 'fix' her," but in reality, sometimes your friends have your back and reassure you of your worth, and sometimes your friends are more than your friends. I could make a **LIST** of all the positive things Adam said to Juliette in this book that caused her confidence to sky rocket, whereas almost everything Warner said installed panic and fear in her.

So clearly I have conflicting feelings, but none of them intercede with the fact that I still cannot get over how much I adore this story. Sure, Warner sucks and I unironically wrote "ew" by half the things he says to her in this book, but watching Juliette's transformation and relating to her insecurities and thought process, as well as remembering how much I adored this book as a young teen, it's always going to be a priceless experience

to me.

### July 2016

I think this is my fourth or fifth time rereading it? I didn't plan to but my aunt showed interest in reading it and I jokingly offered to read it out loud to her, and she said yes. Thus, I proceeded to read this entire book out loud to her. And it was worth it.

And what can I say? I love this book. I fucking love Juliette. Reading it out loud made me slightly more aware of how lame her stream of consciousness can sound, and how the metaphors become exhausting after a while. But I've sort of accepted that book one is always going to be slightly uncomfortable to reread just because of the fact that so much has changed by book 3 that this is almost cringe-worthy. There's so much set-up for world building that never occurs. Honestly this book is more of a 3 star rating, but I can't bring myself to lower it. It was due for a reread since it had been just about two years, and, like always, I noted several things that I had missed or forgotten since I read it last!

### August 2015

I'm not quite sure why i've never uploaded a review on goodreads for this book. I mean, I feel like it kind of goes without saying how I feel about it but ya know. This is my favorite series. If you're sick of dystopian and never want to read one ever again, make an exception for this one. Ignore the fact that the entire fandom (and myself) has probably majorly spoiled you. But this book. Holy shit. The writing. YES. The characters. YES. The plot. YES. The range of emotions. YES. I could tell you the things wrong with it, but no book is perfect. But if you want a book with characters that you will not be able to get out of your head and with a plot that will have you reading an entire trilogy in one sitting, this book is your friend.

reread: July 2014

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### shady boots | #WatchPOSE says

By the way, check out this fan made poster for the movie, if there ever was one.

Made by skellingt0n on deviantART.

I looove it! Exactly how I would picture a movie poster for this book.

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I read this book in one sitting.

For five hours, I read this. It was a school night and I stayed up all night. That's how much this book pulled me.

I know that there are many people who didn't like this book, some even *hate* it, but... Gah, it was just so awesome to me! It's definitely one of those books that pulled me in and refused to let go. I loved every minute of it, and I guess I see why it's getting all the hate?insta-love, lack of world-building, the writing style, etc etc?but... I don't know, something about this book just really really wowed me, and it was fucking awesome in my eyes.

Also, the author herself is awesome as well. <3 Here is her YouTube channel where you can see all of her adorableness. :D

Overall, in spite of all the hate this book is getting, I absolutely loved it, and can't wait for the sequel.

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## Emily May says

This is not a dystopia, it is a romance. This is not a novel, it is a collection of similes and metaphors, most of which do not make sense. I originally gave *Shatter Me* two stars because that's my sort of kneejerk reaction to books I don't like, but after thinking it over for a while, I can't recall *anything* positive about it that would justify a rating of more than one star.

You're probably assuming - correctly - that I went into this book with low expectations. This is completely true. Any so-called "dystopia" with a runway model on the front cover leaves me feeling sceptical. However, I was also prepared to allow myself to be surprised; a lot of my friends loved this and one of the biggest criticisms didn't actually bother me - purple prose. I think there's a fine line in writing between the pretty and the purplish and different readers will define it in their own way. For example, some reviewers thought that *Lips Touch: Three Times* was just a mess of bloated purple prose, whereas I thought it was one of the most beautiful books I read last year. I have a high tolerance level for flowery writing. But...

*Shatter Me's* numerous metaphors, similes, and endless descriptions just didn't make sense. What is this?:

*"Hate looks like everybody else until it smiles. Until it spins around and lies with lips and teeth carved into semblance of something too passive to punch."*

I just... **WHAT???** This is one example floating around in there, but every second sentence is like this! That's not even mentioning the annoying strike-outs. Trust me, no really, *trust me*, I thought people were being overly picky when they said the crossed out sentences were annoying. I actually thought it sounded interesting, unusual, especially because the whole thing is meant to be written in a notebook and I cross stuff out in mine all the time. ~~But you have no idea how bloody annoying this is to read. All the effin' time.~~ People didn't exaggerate: it will most likely drive you crazy.

However, there was one thing that for me was even more annoying than the descriptions, the similes, the strikes, and that was the stupid repetition thing: *"and then and then and then..."* Again, if it had been used once, or sparingly even, then it wouldn't be so bad. I may have thought it was an interesting literary technique. But *Shatter Me* had way way way too much of everything (see what I did there?).

And story? What story? \*sigh\* It's about time we just opened up an entirely new genre called "Dystopian Romance" or alternatively "Romantic Dystopia", though I don't wish to be pessimistic, I'm pretty sure half the new releases of 2012 will make it into that category. If there was a story then it drowned amidst the waves of overenthusiastic and flowery prose. This reminded me of *Article 5* in that the dystopia was there to make the romance interesting. One was certainly there to complement the other, but it was the wrong way around.

Also... kissing when you are fleeing for your lives?? I'm sure this is not the correct way of things, right? And



yet it occurs in way too many young adult books. I'm like: "run, run, run!" but the characters are too busy swapping saliva. I must be old-fashioned in my thinking that staying alive is kinda important.

There are a lot of things that, had they been there, could have convinced me to up this to two stars. One star ratings make me feel sucky. But I'm sorry guys, I wasn't even entertained. The beginning was intriguing but there was so little plot beyond the romance that it quickly became tedious. I hated the prose, I felt nothing either way for the characters, this series ends here for me.

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## **Michelle, the Bookshelf Stalker Queen of the Undead says**

### **Juliette describing Adam's eyes**

"...perfect shade of cobalt, blue like a blossoming bruise, clear and deep and decided"

"...careful, curious"

"... 2 buckets of rainwater; deep, fresh, clear"

"...blue and bottomless like the deepest part of the ocean"

"...tight"

"...as tight as his fists as tight as the strain in his arms"

"...bottomless blue"

"...blue blue blue"

"...midnight moment filled with memories, the only windows into my world"

"... always shining the darkness"

"...two pools of perfection, open, honest, humble"

"...a shade of blue in a midnight sky"

### **Juliette describing Adam's gaze**

"...like a white-hot poker pressed against my skin"

"...touching every inch of my body"

"...locked into mine"

"... is fixed on me: calm, unflappable; 2 buckets of river water at midnight. I'd like to cry into his eyes"

I've never been a purple prose type of girl. A book that will forever remain nameless spoke of "leaking

wombs” and well it made me *shiver*. It also introduced me to the entire concept of purple prose. Prose can be beautiful. I’ve read plenty of books where the writing touches me deeply and the author is simply writing about the sunset, or a walk in the park, or the plight of the poor. If the author is able to actually tell a story without distracting the reader with the prose, I’m all for it.

That is not the case with “Shatter Me”. “Shatter Me” was ~~like my first attempt at cooking a turkey over-~~done. It was ~~like climbing Mount Everest~~ tiring, ~~watching kids play outside your window while you are taking a test~~ distracting, and ~~my dog throwing his bone at me~~ silly.

At some point, I was ~~drowning, desperately searching for land~~ overwhelmed by the prose and eager for the story. And don’t get me started about the crossing out of passages in the book. It was ~~irritating, annoying~~ stupid ~~a cheap trick~~ ~~dumb~~, something I did not enjoy.

Overall-

~~I won’t read the next book.~~

~~I might read the next book if I get a free copy.~~

I’m curious to see where the author can go since it is clear that she can write. I think someone needed to ~~put~~ ~~a leash on the over playful puppy~~ edit her prose down to a more controllable level so that people could enjoy the story rather than cringe with every every every ~~regurgitation~~ ~~eruption~~ ~~spewing~~ ~~listen you need to stop~~ ~~crossing me off or I’m gonna sick some nasty virus on your ass~~ incident of prose.

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## Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

I was going to take this down one star but I'm too lazy to change it on my blog so there!

Re/read on audio for the upcoming continuation of the series ♥

Picture by George Redhawk

Holy butt-crack! I loved this book! Yay! Another trilogy for me. I already have the other books. You can seriously go broke on Goodreads!

Sooo.. I think I'm going to have to add **\*\*SPOILERS\*\***! Read at your own risk :)

This book captured me from the start! Juliette has lived in a type of mental ward for 264 days. She doesn't get to talk to anyone or do anything. It takes a good bit of time for them to tell you why her parents threw her in this place. She killed a little boy just by touching him. If she touches you, she sucks the life right out of you. Soooo... she hasn't touched anyone in 264 days either. She was devastated, she just wanted to try to give the little boy some comfort when his mom was being horrible to him.

I love the way the author has her repeating sentences two or three times to herself or in her little notebook. I do that myself when I'm in one of my moods! It made her seem real. I mean who wouldn't be a little nutzy cuckoo locked up alone for that long and knowing you couldn't touch anyone. Well, it would come in handy for your enemies!!

Out of the blue one day they announce they are going to give her a roommate. She gets Adam. Lovely, yummy Adam :) Come to find out she has known him all of her life, from childhood.

Anyhoo, then we find out Adam is a soldier to some wicked dude that pulls her out of the place. This man named Warren wants to use her as a weapon to kill people. I mean what evil villain wouldn't right? He also has a little crush on her but he's a jerk and evil so that's a no go.

She is in love with Adam and he with her. They have loved each other all of their lives and guess what? He can touch her without being killed :)

They break out and go to Adam's home to see his younger brother. It's in a place where the bad people don't generally go. Some other soldier ends up coming to the house all shot and what not and telling them he knows of a safe place for them to go.

They start to head out as the bad guy finds them, Adam gets shot but will be ok. And for some reason that jerk can touch Juliette now too. She shoots him, but we all know he's not dead!

They make it to the safe house and all I can say from there is it reminds me of X-Men. There are a whole crew of "different" peeps there.

I'm excited to find out what will happen with all of these new friends.

Awesome book!

Happy Reading!

Mel ♥?

MY BLOG: Melissa Martin's Reading List

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## **Kat Kennedy says**

Shatter Me, otherwise known as: When Creative Writing Class Goes Wrong.

I am all for experimental writing, for stretching your abilities and trying to find fresh ways to express ideas. Occasionally you end up with genius, but most of the time you result in pretentious, awkward prose that stick in the proverbial craw of readers. This book is that writing. There are plenty of examples that I can give as evidence – but I shall stick with two relatively short ones:

“His eyes scan the silhouette of my structure and the slow motion makes my heart race. I catch the rose petals as they fall from my cheeks, as they float around the frame of my body, as they cover me in something that feels like the absence of courage.”

The absence of courage? Are you fucking kidding me? We have a word for that. I believe that is almost the dictionary definition of the word coward. I would explain what was wrong with the rest of the paragraph too but I want to keep this review to a 10,000 word thesis at max.

“I always wonder about raindrops.

I wonder about how they’re always falling down, tripping over their own feet, breaking their legs and forgetting their parachutes as they tumble right out of the sky toward an uncertain end.”

...right.

I get, artistically, that Mafi wanted to expose her readers to the mind of a girl whose sanity is fragile and questionable, and that she’s trying to show this through the prose. I don’t think the effect works or is done particularly well. I think the workings of a troubled mind would result in more than bad analogies and a bunch of numbers. Despite the fact that Juliette’s backstory and premise is interesting, we still end up with the same mundane, cookie-cutter heroine that can be seen in the vast majority of Young Adult literature. The only thing insane about this novel is how predictable and trite it is.

*It would not be completely unreasonable to question my sanity in regards to reading Young Adult novels.*

When are popular young adult authors going to provide more to the characterization of their main protagonists than: Irresistible, unique outsider, in love with a guy?

Can’t male protagonists have other qualities than: in love with main character, hot, tragic backstory to illicit excessive brooding?

The entire premise of *Shatter Me* promised something different and new. Yet we still end up with the same bland old fare.

The plot and pacing is awkward and cumbersome. Even when situations are supposed to be tense, there is a sense of boredom and predictability. I feel sad that this is yet again, another disappointing dystopian Young Adult novel that will join its sisters in the Mediocre Hall of I Can’t Be Stuffed.

But, if you do decide to visit, at least you get a free shirt!

One last thing (view spoiler)

This review also appears on my blog, Cuddlebuggery Book Blog.

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**Rachel E. Carter says**

**MY PRECIOUS IS NOW SIGNED BY TAHEREH!!! I can die of happiness now <3**

**In case y'all didn't know, not only was this book optioned by Warner Bros as a movie, it has now been optioned as a TV SHOW BY ABC STUDIOS -with Tahereh as a producer.**

*This better happen. I am not joking. I am tired of great books (cough, cough: The Song of the Lioness Quartet and The Dust Lands Trilogy: Blood Red Road; Rebel Heart; Raging Star) not becoming movies or TV shows after they are optioned. Dear book gods (and I know you exist because you inspired Tahereh to write this series), make this real. Yes, I know TV/movies don't always make great adaptations and the books are 99.9% of the time better, but please do it anyway. Because I need this.*

Oh, and if you decide to cast Alex Pettyfer as Warner I would be cool with that.

**Original fan-girl praise (because I am incapable of actually writing a true unbiased, unaffected review for this series):**

Okay, I have not properly reviewed this series since I read it a year ago (and I don't think I ever can because it would be ridiculously long and the book is so quotable that I would literally be citing the entire thing) but Shatter Me is one of my favorite series of ALL TIME. And it has my FAVORITE LOVE INTEREST of ANY BOOK I'VE EVER READ. Butttt, to anyone considering it, watch this: <http://youtu.be/dJt-lGmBSTs>. I just found that fan video the other day and I can't stop watching it. I'm sorry but if that doesn't make you want to read this book you do not have a soul. READ. THIS. BOOK. You will either love it or hate it (depending on how you feel about prose) but if you love it than **O.M.G. you will love it like you've loved nothing else.**

**Oh, and for those of you who have already read the series: (view spoiler)**

PS this review basically is a dedication to Alex Pettyfer as Warner. YOU ARE WELCOME.

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## Zemira (Kylo Ren fangirl) Warner says

[image error]

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### Nick says

You can find the full review and more about this book on my blog!

**This was something...and I liked it.**

Okay so the first 200 pages were like the dullest,cheesiest romance bullshit,like the level of cheesiness was above normal,and you know how I feel about that.I sometimes thought to quit,but god,I am glad I didn't.You know when you loose all the hope but then one things clings and you see the light again? ***Omega Point*** was that for me.Like my thoughts about this book changed 100 percent.There are 3 things that I truly cherish in life: 1.Girls in tight outfits, 2.Dragons, 3.Superpowers and that's what I got in the last 50 pages and it is enough for me,enough to continue with the series.I don't know why but I got a vibe of fantastic 4,maybe with Wilson hugging himself twice if you know what I mean.

One thing I can't wrap my mind of,one things I can't get is the hype for ***Warner***.He is like the worst character in the book ,he is like Joffrey from Game of Thrones for me and if you know me just a little you would know how much I truly deeply hate him and I am hoping he gets killed.But absolutely get the hype for ***Kenji***,like that guy is a legend.I feel like we are already buddies.Such a cool humor,got me laughing out loud.In the other hand ***Juliette***,I don't know why but I got the feeling like I remember her from somewhere.I like her like a lot,she cries much,and she literally has a million chances to kill people she wants to kill but doesn't,but god she is beautiful.I don't know some people are just beautiful,now in what they look,not in what they say,just in what they are,and she was beautiful to me that way.

I will definitely continue the series.I like the plot,and now with superpowers it is a million times better.I recommend this book to every reader out there,it has a different writing style,some call it beautiful and unique,and I can't disagree,it's just that I didn't find it beautiful.It was annoying like hell,especially at the beginnings.I know I will get a bunch of replies for not liking Warner,but seriously people what's there to like?

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## Steph Sinclair says

*"I always wonder about raindrops.*

*I wonder about how they're always falling down, tripping over their own feet, breaking their legs and forgetting their parachutes as they tumble right out of the sky toward an uncertain end. It's like someone is emptying their pockets over the earth and doesn't seem to care where the contents fall, doesn't seem to care that the raindrops burst when they hit the ground, that they shatter when they fall to the floor, that people curse the days the drops dare to tap on their doors.*

*I am a raindrop.*

*~~My parents emptied their pockets of me and left me to evaporate on a concrete slab."~~*

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**Here lies Steph Sinclair, slaughtered by metaphors raindrops.**

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## Virginia Ronan ♥ Herondale ♥ says

I seriously don't know why it took me so long to dig my claws into this book, but I definitely know that I don't regret doing it! ;-)

"Shatter me" was an awesome read and I enjoyed it immensely! There were so many things I loved about this book and whilst it is true that many people complained about the writing style, I have to admit that I actually loved it.

*"Hope is hugging me, holding me in its arms, wiping away my tears and telling me that today and tomorrow and two days from now I will be just fine and I'm so delirious I actually dare to believe it."*

I think it was something new and extraordinary and I loved the way Juliette described her world. The repetitions, her thoughts, the things she thought and even the truths she vehemently refused to admit. It all gave me a very good picture of her character and her mind, the many things she must have gone through shaping her into a person that distrusts everyone and desperately tries not to feel anything. XD Of course she's failing but this actually only made her even more likeable. \*lol\*

See where I'm getting at? Tahereh Mafi knows exactly what she's doing and she really managed to drag me into her world. Yes, I confess! I'm officially hooked now and I'm sooo going to read all of the other books! ;-P

So be prepared to read many reviews! \*LOL\*

Okay, enough of the threats and right back to the characters! Oh, the characters! There's so much to tell! XD

**FAIR WARNING: Mild spoilers lying ahead of you! ;-)**

**Juliette:**

At the beginning of the book you don't even know her name. Everything you know is that she's been imprisoned for ages and that she's more than just a little insecure. Considering her ability this is no surprise though, the fact she can hurt and even kill people with just the touch of her fingertips making it kind of hard to be all too sociable. Juliette may not talk a lot but she sees everything and she's more than just observant. She obviously also seems to have a knack for poetry and I really enjoyed the way she used her words.

*"All I ever wanted was to reach out and touch another human being not just with my hands but with my heart."*

**Adam:**

That boy is hot as hell and Juliette's new cell mate! Could a girl ask for more? Dark hair, blue eyes, awesome and muscular body! \*drools\* Okay, okay! I'm back on track! \*lol\* Yeah, as you can see Adam is just awesome boyfriend material and it's no wonder that they kind of hit it off! He's caring and gentle and he always tries to understand Juliette's thoughts. I liked him from the beginning and I'm really curious to find out how things are going to proceed in the next books. =>

Sidenote: Is it just me or does he never tell Juliette that he loves her? O\_o I thought this was kind of odd. Juliette told him she loved him but as far as I could read he never returned it.... Did I miss anything? xD

*God, Juliette, I'd follow you anywhere. You're the only good thing left in this world."*

**Warner:**

Oh my god! Warner! Gosh! Warner! Argh! Warner! \*babbling mess\* That boy, that boy gave me all the feels! Good and bad! Happy and angry! Disgusted and longing for more! \*lol\* I wanted him to touch Juliette and I wanted her to touch him! I just couldn't decide if I wanted it because I wanted him to hurt or because I wanted them to make out! \*LOL\* What is it with me and the villains? Why do I love them so much!? XD First Maven and now Warner, I think I'm going to die! >\_< Oh, well I think I'm supposed to say something about his character as well so here I go: He's ruthless when he is with his soldiers but he is gentle whenever he is with Juliette. He seems to care about her a LOT and he even admitted that he loved her! But why does he hurt her so much? Warner is a big question mark and some sort of mystery I'm determined to solve. So yesh, I'm so going to read "Destroy me" after I wrote this review! XD

*His smile is laced with dynamite. "Go to sleep."*

*"Go to hell."*

*He works his jaw. Walks to the door. "I'm working on it."*

*"I'm nineteen years old." He clarifies. "I'm a fairly impressive specimen for my age, I know."*

**Kenji:**

I loved Kenji! That boy is so funny and I really enjoyed his sassy demeanour. He's constantly hitting on



Juliette and his character gives the book a hilarious edge. I want more of him and actually can't wait to meet him again! =)

*His grin is crooked. "I don't know why, but I kind of like it when you threaten me."*

*"That's because you're an idiot."*

*"Nah." He shakes his head. "You've got a sexy voice makes everything sound naughty."*

So, if you haven't already figured it out:

YES I liked "Shatter me" and I can easily recommend it to anyone who's looking for a nice and short-lived page turner! =)

Enjoy! ;-P

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## **Haleema says**

I know many found this book to be oh so romantic, but I can't help but think how gross it was.

### **The writing:**

Mafi's style of writing varies. Let me categorize.

#### This doesn't even make sense writing:

"I catch the rose petals as they fall from my cheeks, as they float around the frame of my body, as they cover me in something that feels like the absence of courage."

"He says it with a small smile the size of Jupiter."

#### I'm picturing this in my head and it's not pretty writing:

"Every organ in my body falls to the ground."

"There are 400 cotton balls caught in my windpipe."

"My mouth is sitting on my kneecaps."

"My jaw is dangling from my shoelace."

"My stomach drops onto my knees."

"I blush through my bones."

"My spine is conducting enough electricity to power a city."

#### Repetition gone wrong writing:

"I blush."

"I blush."

"His lips part. Close."

"I blush."

"I blush."

"His lips part. Close."

"I blush."

"I blush."

"His lips part. Close."

Really just shit writing in general writing:

"I am an old creaky staircase when I wake up."

"Warner thinks Adam is a cardboard cutout of vanilla regurgitations."

Do I need to explain how shitty this writing is?

**The characters:**

Juliette does nothing but sulk around, wait for death, whine, and has very creepy thoughts of Adam.

Adam is just there...

Warner is a pathetic excuse for a villain.

I must admit that a few times, he had potential to be a good character. I thought he was the only character that actually had a purpose. He made me cringe with his insanity. He made me angry, made me feel uncomfortable. He was getting there. Then he would say something so cheesy, so inconsistent with his character, and just downright stupid that I lost all hope in him.

Kenji was just fucking annoying.

**The plot:**

Besides Juliette's constant whining and lameness and the cringeworthy romances, this story was just a sadder and lamer version of X-Men. It had too many X-Men vibes going on.

On the whole:

Mafi, if you wanted to capture me with ~~I'm just trying way too hard to sound cool~~ unique prose, thinking that if you repeated phrases fifty times every once in a while, had painful metaphors, and an unnecessary abundance of irritating striking texts, then

**\*reads acknowledgments\***

*You've filled my days with shooting stars, and one day I will pluck the moon from the sky and put it in your mailbox.*

She speaks like that in real life...?

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**Val...Shameless.Skanky.B\*tchy. says**

**I deserve a medal for finishing this book.**

Like, the Olympic gold medal in the Anti-DNF Games, people.

\*Rant Ahead\*

It took me three months to finish this book.

THREE. (Not 3, Miss Mafi)

Now, normally, I would have tossed this book out the window like an overwrought *Silver Linings Playbook* Bradley Cooper, being that I AM the queen of the heartless page 15 DNF; however, I find that I have a harder time DNFing something when I am 1) Reading a physical copy as opposed to a digital copy, and 2) When I already OWN books two and three and am hoping to FUCK I didn't waste my money.

That said, this book annoyed me on several different levels.

1) Juliette's "power" or "glitch" or whatever the hell it is, is never fully explained in detail. It's skirted around in a mass of overwrought metaphors and complete bullshit.

2) Said overwrought metaphors.

3) The writing itself in general.

Despite having a degree in English and Literature, I am usually pretty easygoing about typos and grammar, especially when it comes to self-published stuff.

I mean just LOOK at the slang and vernacular I use in my reviews.

I am NOT a hard ass about this stuff.

HOWEVER.

When I am holding a professionally published, FINISHED copy of a mass produced book and it contains strikeouts, sentences starting in lowercase letters, and numbers one through ten incorrectly placed in number form, e.g., "Juliette has 2 hands and 0 1 brain," my inner grammar maven's granny panties get twisted so far up her ass, it's impossible to focus.

I mean, I GET that this was all a stylistic choice, etc. That the sporadic, all over the place, SHITTY sentence structure was supposed to reflect Juliette's instability, or whatever the fuck it was supposed to reflect, but I just can't get behind starting a sentence with "4," my friends.

Add to that the insta-love between Juliette and Adam and the spindly world-building of a completely unclear and poorly wrought dystopian society and you have a wreck of a book that merely has a pretty cover.

Now I am left with the crushing decision of whether or not I try book two (since I, like an idiot, already bought it) or if I just march the whole trilogy down to my favorite used book store and hope the fact that this series is about to have a new book published gets me top dollar.

Decisions, decisions.

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