



The Other Way Around

Sashi Kaufman

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Andrew West goes to an all-girls school and he still can't get a date. If that's not bad enough, his Mom is the headmaster. Everyone seems to have the wrong idea about Andrew. His teachers think he's a good student who doesn't apply himself -he really is trying. The kids at his old school thought he was a goth. His cousin Barry thinks he's gay.

When his Thanksgiving break goes tragically awry he decides to run away. He catches a ride with a strange group of older teenagers. The Freegans are street performers and dumpster divers. As Andrew travels the country with his new friends he leaves behind the expectations of others and discovers what he expects of himself.

The Other Way Around Details

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Author : Sashi Kaufman

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From Reader Review The Other Way Around for online ebook

Sara says

This was great. Aimless teen reaches his breaking point and tries to get on a bus to go visit his grandma. Along the way he falls in with a group of goodhearted homeless youths who travel around in an old van, Dumpster diving for food and performing street shows for gas money. The main character really comes into his own, and learns a lot from his new friends.

Alana McConnell says

I'm really surprised this book has so few reviews. It has that sort of John Green-y feel, even though it was much more well written. The story was interesting, though I actually felt like the pre journey part where Andrew is in school, to be unnecessary and disconnected. I loved Andrews and Gs relationship though, but felt like Emily was freaking annoying and hat Andrew was too good for her, overall unique and a great read, I loved the topics of teen homelessness and freeganism.

Suzan says

Not that this is a "boy" book, but if you have a young man looking for a good read, may I suggest this book. A young adult book that you don't have to be a teen to enjoy. Recommending for adults as well as kids.

Jennifer says

Loved this YA read! I picked it from my oldest's stack and he said, "Mom, you will love this book! The main character's experience is so cool, but don't worry I will never do that." Obviously I'm intrigued.....so I read.....and loved the book. Life lessons abound. As a parent reading books from the YA perspective, I am always reminded how different their priorities are. The characters and their situations are complicated and I think the reader is sometimes asked to fill in the blanks. Not a bad thing, because anytime I am presented with an easy way to bring up tough topics with my teen I am grateful. I can't wait to hear more about what my 14 yo thought about the book.

Bill says

Say your parents have been divorced, you are at another new school – and at this one your mom is the principal – and you are turned off by school. Say your worst cousin – the one whose always calling you ‘gay’ and goes on to wet your bed – comes for Thanksgiving.

Solution? Take off! Now picture yourself at the Greyhound bus station buying a ticket to your grandmom’s place in faraway Indiana; hear yourself trying to tell the ticket guy you’re really 18 (you’re not)

when one of the girls sitting with four other hippie kind of kids, fools the ticket guy into thinking she's your sister and your mom wants to have a last goodbye out in the car before you leave.

Then picture yourself leaving with the hippie kids' in their VW Microbus to tour towns and cities – performing their own idea of a circus for cash and food as they head toward New Mexico, practically on the opposite side and corner of the country.

Will you fall in love, dumpster dive for actual good food, and begin to see another way around becoming more confident of yourself and possibly even seeing how you'd like to see your future?

Could be!

This is the best book I've read in a blue moon! If you read no other book, read this one!

Trisha says

This is really well written. Andrew's voice rings true, and his gradual development from uncertain boy into confident, clear-minded young man works both on a narrative level and a more figurative one.

The issues of youth homelessness, freeganism and society's inability to successfully care for some of its most vulnerable members are all here, but not in a preachy or trite way.

I found the relationship with Emily the weakest part of the book. She didn't garner my sympathy or my support. I liked how the book ended though: Nice & strong.

Highly recommended.

This copy was provided by the publisher via netgalley and was received with thanks. Due out March 1st.

Stacey says

this book surprised me for some reason. i liked the people and the adventure and the point of the trip. as an aerialist, i had heart palpitations when they explained the trapeze setup however, and i kept holding my breath the entire book as a result.

Elizabeth Curington says

When Andrew's life starts falling apart around him, he sets out to visit his grandmother. It's a Thanksgiving tradition, after all. And if he has to take the bus alone to do it, fine.

Until he discovers there is more to the story, and he really might be as alone as he feels. Enter a random group of hippie teenagers who offer to take him along for the ride (quite literally).

Andrew never realized he might be living a privileged life until he first sleeps in a van, finds dinner in a dumpster (long live Freegans), or earns his dinner as a dishwasher. A whole other world develops, and he may never go home again.

This story started off pretty light in content but went on to really pull at my heart and view of the world. While I won't be converting to Freeganism anytime soon, I certainly have a lot to think about. This is the way a road trip story should be--an On the Road for the young adult of 2014.

Emma L says

Wow! I did not expect to love this book as much as I did. The Other Way Around is a well written story of a boy figuring out who he really is, and who wants to be. The main character, Andrew, has never really had any friends, or got along well with his family. After having enough one Thanksgiving he decides to run away and he begins a crazy adventure that helps him discover himself and what he was missing in life. The characters in this book were great! The relationships between the characters are what make the story, and they were so relatable in so many different ways. I always love road trip stories, so this was just the story for me. I got sucked up into Andrew and the other character's worlds, and I couldn't put this book down. I am so thankful to Sashi Kaufman for writing such a memorable book! (I received this book for free through Goodreads first reads!! It was a great experience, Thanks)

Sydney says

It was an amazing book. I enjoyed it a lot. I love the character. It had an interesting plot line. Sometimes, i want to run away and go on a little adventure. The book inspire me more to do that. Andrew was a cool guy. Really, all the character were cool. They had this hippie thing about them and they were street performer. It was an amazing book.

Tara Young says

First, let me say to the publisher that I applaud you for publishing this book, but must ask you to please go through it with a fine tooth comb. There are many errors that need to be fixed. Words are missing, comma misplacement, etc. It's not up to Ms. kaufman to go through her manuscript with a fine tooth comb, but a good copy editor/ proofreader would have caught these errors.

Okay, now to Ms. kaufman. Wow! You know how to tell a story. Interesting, engaging, thoughtful. The story of Andrew who finally can't take it any longer and gets on the road. The ultimate kid fantasy told in a realistic voice. I'm not one to write a spoiler review, yet even if I did so what? This book is THAT good that even if I told you the ending you'd be still intrigued and engaged with these characters.

I honestly think it should be required reading in classrooms. Once, the errors are corrected which though annoying don't take away from the action/adventure. Mucho Mucho

Alex Ouellette says

this book is amazingly brilliant. i'm blown away by how much i loved it, considering i don't gravitate towards realistic fiction. i found myself laughing out loud and feeling sad for the characters. i recommend this book to anyone who likes john green. this gave me the feelings i feel while reading my all time favorite books. hats off to sashi kaufman!

Tara says

Within just a couple of chapters, I suspected that this book was going to be one of my favorites of 2014--and now that I'm finished, I'm happy to report that it is. Written in one of the most blazingly authentic teen voices I've read in quite a while, Andrew's journey brings him into contact with fascinating people and equally gripping interior conflicts. The secondary characters--especially G and Emily--are expertly drawn, and the romantic elements of the book have the perfect tinge of awkwardness and imperfection.

If you're a fan of, say, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, I'd highly recommend this book to you. And even if you're not usually a fan of that type of books, I'd encourage you to read *The Other Way Around* anyway. :)

I could hardly believe that this was a debut novel, and can't wait to see what comes next from Sashi Kaufman.

Elisabeth says

Really refreshing story for YA audiences. I was captivated from the very beginning to the very end. Great characters, vivid pictures and lovely story telling!

Valerie Cole says

THE OTHER WAY AROUND is my favorite 2014 contemporary. It's about a boy who runs away from home to hit the road with a group of vegan, trash-picking street performers. I loved not only the road trip story, but the organic and rich alternative life Andrew tumbles into. It was a lovely, and unique, way to rebel against his uptight, by-the-books mother.

I loved this book so much, Sashi and I are giving away a copy on my blog!
<http://valeriefm80.blogspot.com/2014/...>
