



Between the Notes

By Sharon Huss Roat

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After Ivy is forced to move to "the wrong side of the tracks" due to economic hard times, she discovers that not everything—or everyone—is what they seem, even herself. Fans of Jenny Han and Sarah Dessen will love this funny, poignant, and relatable story.

When Ivy Emerson's family loses their house—complete with her beloved piano—the fear of what's to come seizes her like a bad case of stage fright. Forced to give up her allowance, her cell phone, and the window seat in her lilac-colored bedroom, Ivy moves with her family from her affluent neighborhood to Lakeside, aka "the wrong side of the tracks." Hiding the truth from her friends—and the cute new guy in school, who may have secrets of his own—seems like a good idea at first. But when the bad-boy-next door threatens to ruin everything, Ivy's carefully crafted lies begin to unravel . . . and there is no way to stop them.

Once things get to the breaking point, Ivy turns to her music, some surprising new friends, and the trusting heart of her disabled little brother. And she may be surprised that not everyone is who she thought they were . . . including herself.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up—Ivy Emerson, 16, moves from affluent Westside to undesirable Lakeside after her parents declare bankruptcy after getting behind on her brother's medical bills. Leaving her baby grand piano, bedroom with a window seat, and cell phone behind, she fears she'll lose her friends if they ever find out. But keeping up appearances proves difficult when her best friend still lives in Westside, her bad-boy next-door neighbor isn't keen on keeping their interactions a secret, and the mysterious new boy at school seems far more Westside than Lakeside. To make matters worse, Ivy's best friend is crushing on the new guy who, in turn, is mutually crushing on Ivy. Worst of all, she can't even save face with a "respectable" job playing piano at the country club due to her stage fright and fear of being found out. Short on cash and without the perspective that money isn't everything, Ivy navigates the waters of learning what she's worth in a very material world. Although distastefully shallow at first, trying to save face at every turn, Ivy eventually learns that things aren't always what they seem, and that it is not what you have but who you are that matters. A constant barrage of "ums," ellipses, and disjointed plot devices tarnish the reading experience. **VERDICT** The lesson Ivy learns is important and oh-so-sweet; the journey there is cumbersome and slightly sour.—Brittany Staszak, St. Charles Public Library, IL

Review

“When it comes to heart and finding home, this novel hits the right notes.” (Booklist)

“This demonstrates that between the lines resides truth about perception, others, and most importantly oneself.” (Kirkus Reviews)

“Teens will find a true champion in Ivy” (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

“Sweet and satisfying debut.” (The Horn Book)

From the Back Cover

When Ivy Emerson's family loses their house—complete with her beloved piano—the fear of what's to come seizes her like a bad case of stage fright. Only this isn't one of her single, terrifying performances. It's her life.

And it isn't pretty.

Ivy is forced to move with her family out of their affluent neighborhood to Lakeside, also known as "the wrong side of the tracks." Hiding the truth from her friends—and the cute new guy in school, who may have secrets of his own—seems like a good idea at first. But when a bad boy next door threatens to ruin everything, Ivy's carefully crafted lies begin to unravel . . . and there is no way to stop them.

As things reach the breaking point, Ivy turns to her music, some unlikely new friends, and the trusting heart of her disabled little brother. And she may be surprised that not everyone is who she thought they were . . . including herself.

Debut author Sharon Huss Roat crafts a charming and timely story of what happens when life as you know it flips completely upside down.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Douglas:

This book untitled Between the Notes to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, here is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy this kind of book in the book retailer or you can order it through online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, as you can read this book in your Touch screen phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this reserve from your list.

Deborah Knight:

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Rosa Goldschmidt:

Many people spending their time frame by playing outside having friends, fun activity together with family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, think reading a book will surely hard because you have to accept the book everywhere? It okay you can have the e-book, taking everywhere you want in your Smartphone. Like Between the Notes which is getting the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's see.

William Evans:

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