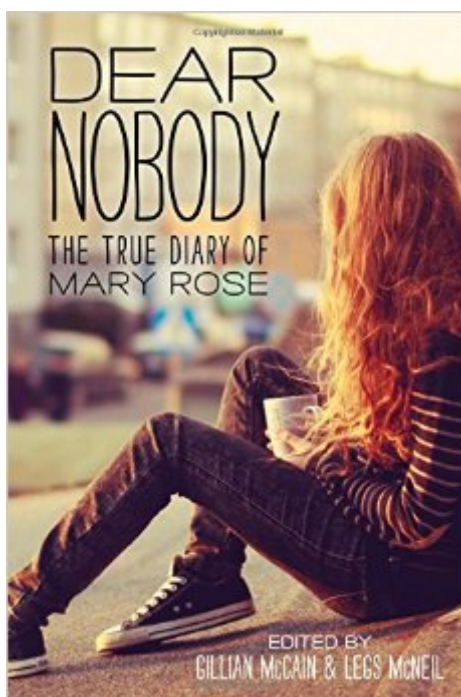


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# Dear Nobody: The True Diary Of Mary Rose



## Synopsis

They call me a freak. I'm sick of it. It makes me want dangerous, bad things. Drugs-hard drugs-and people who are bad for me, but I don't care, because I'm so lonely and no matter what their intentions are at least they're talking to me...They say that high school is supposed to be the best time of your life. But what if that's just not true? More than anything, Mary Rose wants to fit in. To be loved. And she'll do whatever it takes to make that happen. Even if it costs her her life. Told through the raw and unflinching diary entries of a real teen, Mary Rose struggles with addiction, bullying, and a deadly secret. Her compelling story will inspire you-and remind you that you're not alone."Mary Rose's diary is a heart-wrenching tale of a young girl trying to figure everything out."-VOYA "The writing style has a beautiful lyricism... Readers will appreciate this unflinchingly honest work."-School Library Journal

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

\*I was given a free copy of this book in return for my honest opinion\*What I loved about Mary Rose's story was how from one entry to the next she seemed like a different person. It reminded me of my own journals as a teen, when one week a boy would be the all-encompassing thing I wrote about and the next it would be something bigger or smaller, but totally unrelated to the boy. There were things in Mary Rose's diary I could totally relate to and things that completely shocked me. One moment being full of confidence and on top of the world, the next moment feeling like the ugliest, lowest person on the planet... that's just being a teenager. But some of the situations she put herself in... it made me realize my own teen angst was not so bad. The truly intriguing thing for

me was getting a true description of cystic fibrosis from someone actually suffering from it. No antiseptic doctor speak here, just a girl trying to deal with a terminal illness in the best ways she knew how. The gritty reality of teen drinking and drugs, of a family that couldn't quite get it together, and of first love with all its pain and glory... Mary Rose wrote of these things with an honesty and a beauty far older than her years. I have to thank her mother for allowing this look inside Mary Rose's life. I hope that young women who read this book will see that they are not alone in their ricocheting feelings, that it is really normal to have such highs and lows. And I hope Mary Rose inspires people with CF to fight the good fight with all they have. A truly beautiful look at the life of a normal teenage girl dealing with abnormal circumstances.

I received a copy of this book from Netgalley and Sourcebooks Fire in exchange for an honest review. Dear Nobody: The True Diary of Mary Rose is a story of a girl struggling to escape her demons. It is a very raw story of a very real girl who suffered through some traumatic issues and tried to find an escape through drugs. Mary Rose was handed a s\*\*\*ty hand of cards and tried to play them the only way she knew how. Having read Go Ask Alice I expected something like that, but this book is in a whole different league. I found this book to be absolutely heartbreaking, as no one should have to go through what Mary Rose did. My only issue with it is that it is a diary and not a novel, so it jumped around a bit. There wasn't much of an introduction to every new person, and at times I felt as if I didn't know who Mary Rose was talking about. None of that prevented me from getting wrapped up in Mary Rose's life though. This story made me cry, not during the book, but after I was done reading and was thinking about it. Throughout most of the book Mary Rose is starting her diary entries with "Dear Nobody", clearly thinking that she didn't have anyone who would ever care to read it. Yet obviously there were people that cared about her enough to go get this published. I found it to be a great tribute to her as she mentioned how she would someday like to be an actor or an author. I would suggest this for any teenager, anyone who has ever struggled with disease or drugs, anyone who has ever suffered a loss of a loved one and anyone who has ever felt alone in this world. I think we all go through times in life where we feel unloved, lonely and sad. But after the book is over it is clear that there were people that cared about Mary Rose, even if she didn't see it.

Dear Nobody: The True Diary of Mary Rose is the real, gritty, and honest diary of the teenage lost soul, Mary Rose. Mary Rose totally got the short end of the stick. She has an absent father, a not-so-fabulously-behaved mother, and her mother's boyfriend is abusive. Mary Rose also

happens to have cystic fibrosis and seems to have a hard time making friends. So what does Mary Rose do? She turns to drugs and alcohol, the only things that will make her feel normal and fit in with the crowd. But of course, addiction isn't known to solve many people's problems. Dear Nobody is addicting to read. "I could not put it down, and didn't, until I was finished. It was heart-wrenching and devastating at times. With that said, the book fell a little flat for me. I know it sounds strange since it's a true story, all in Mary Rose's real diary entries, but I wasn't as emotionally hooked onto Mary Rose as I expected to be. Have you read books like this, like Go Ask Alice or something similar? Thank you for reading, Rebecca @ Love at First Book

Dear Nobody is the memoir of a girl who died young, with much on her mind. Legs McNeil and Gillian McCain have winnowed out the banal and merely bizarre from Mary Rose's journals, and present the observations and ruminations of a girl defiant in the face of death. Legs gravitates toward personalities who might be overlooked, delivering a resonant narrative. This work goes from pointed to poignant, hitting every compass point except maudlin. This is another worthy work from the expositive duo of Legs McNeil and Gillian McCain. Bravo!

The ending was very heartfelt. I enjoyed this book read it in one sitting. Through her struggles with CF a friend of mine went through the same thing with drug abuse, he is still alive and is still fighting.

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