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# This Song Will Save Your Life



## Synopsis

A powerful coming-of-age story about an outsider who finds herself when she enters the underground music scene. Making friends has never been Elise Dembowski's strong suit. All throughout her life, she's been the butt of every joke and the outsider in every conversation. When a final attempt at popularity fails, Elise nearly gives up. Then she stumbles upon a warehouse party where she meets Vicky, a girl in a band who accepts her; Char, a cute, yet mysterious disc jockey; Pippa, a carefree spirit from England; and most importantly, a love for DJing. Told in a refreshingly genuine and laugh-out-loud funny voice, Leila Sales' *This Song Will Save Your Life* powerful young adult coming of age novel is an exuberant story about identity, friendship, and the power of music to bring people together. Heartbreaking, heartfelt, and eventually heart-lifting, this YA novel is one I won't soon forget. If you're a music junkie who also loves YA, read it alongside Len Vlahos's *The Scar Boys* or Rainbow Rowell's *Eleanor & Park*. Janet Geddis, Avid Bookshop Pulsates with hope for all the misfits. Kirkus Reviews, starred review Readers will be fascinated and touched by the first-person voice because of what is roiling beneath it. . . . Teens will connect with [Elise] viscerally. Booklist, starred review Sales gets everything right. MTV.com A YALSA Best Book for Young Adults A BuzzFeed Best YA Book of the Year A CCBC Choice

## Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (119 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #168,250 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Performing Arts > Music #182 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Self Esteem & Reliance #512 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Friendship

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

This Song Will Save Your Life was an unexpectedly lovely read. The combination of music and one girl's journey towards self-acceptance really gave the book its strong appeal. This story breaks your heart, then carefully puts it back together, leaving an unmistakable mark. What makes this book most powerful is the fact that we see Elise's journey from this girl with absolutely no self-worth to someone at peace with who she is. Her peers treated her terribly, and the desperation and longing for acceptance she felt constantly was truly sad. Elise was one of those teens on the fringe - no friends, no interests, nothing except a sense of self-loathing that bogged her down daily. She was frustrating, but she was also a character who you wanted things to become good for. Elise herself has to grow on the reader, as she's honestly quite sad at the start of the story. Eventually, she takes tentative steps towards change, lured out by the siren call of music, Start and her fascination with being a DJ. Watching her grow into herself, and seeing her passion essentially coax her out of her shell, was a lovely journey. And readers will also see how she's loyal, loving and protective of her entire family. Elise's family added an interesting dynamic. Elise came from a broken home, so her parents basically shuttled her back and forth between two very different households. In her father's house, Elise had plenty of freedom as it was just the two of them. In her mother's house, she had a family, with two parents and siblings, which was a bit crazier. While it is bothersome that her parents didn't seem to care in the early chapters, it's clear by the end that they loved her and wanted all the best for her.

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