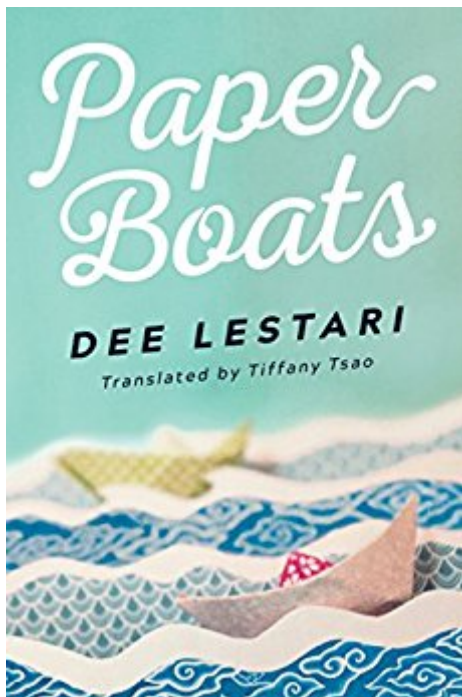


The book was found

Paper Boats



Synopsis

She's a free-spirited dreamer. He's a brilliant painter. But now their shared passion for art has turned into something deeper. For as long as she can remember, Kugy has loved to write. Whimsical stories are her passion, along with letters full of secret longings that she folds into paper boats and sets out to sea. Now that she's older, she dreams of following her heart and becoming a true teller of tales, but she decides to get a "real job" instead and forget all about Keenan, the guy who makes her feel as if she's living in one of her own fairy tales. Sensitive and introverted, Keenan is an aspiring artist, but he feels pressured to pursue a more practical path. He's drawn to Kugy from first sight: she's unconventional, and the light radiating from her eyes and the warmth of her presence pull him in. They seem like a perfect match "both on and off the page" but revealing their secret feelings means risking their friendship and betraying the people they love most. Can they find the courage to admit their love for each other and chase their long-held dreams?

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Customer Reviews

Kugy is a self defined weirdo who, frankly, thinks and acts like a child pretending to be an adult. Keenan is a painter whose parents think his art is a childish habit he hasn't outgrown. Their "love at first sight" situation might be plausible if every single unattached character of the opposite gender didn't also fall in love with them at sight for the entire book, which is the ongoing excuse K and K use for not sharing their feelings about each other. 90% of the plot is Kugy and Keenan taking turns avoiding each other, because the other one is dating someone that magically fell in love with them at first sight. I had a hard time trying to remember that Kugy was supposed to be a grown woman in her early 20s and not a 12 year old who still hasn't outgrown traits from her single digit years. Which is honestly how she comes across, since the girl isn't even mature enough to comprehend the funny feelings she sometimes has around men. Keenan is a one dimensional stereotype of a teenager who wanted to go to art school but his parents said no, and he really doesn't have a personality beyond his angst at his parents. For a book that is entirely about relationship drama between young adults, the relationships are just plain badly written and the ages of the characters aren't believable compared to their blatant lack of maturity. It becomes especially painful to read toward the end of the book where it gets to a point that all the characters are sloppily in love with each other and crying all over the place. Think Romeo and Juliet meets The Gift of the Magi. By the end of the book, I no longer found any of the characters sympathetic. I really wouldn't recommend this unless you think it's worth wading through a mediocre book about implausible relationship drama just to pick up a few striking passages of prose. I'm not sure why I ever expect free kindle books to be good, but this did not meet expectations.

I don't think I have ever gotten a Kindle First Read and read it before the month was up, let alone the week. I normally don't go for romances. I normally shy away from international writers, but at the time I was browsing, this book 1) sounded promising and 2) had no reviews. I truly did not want to put this book down. As soon as I did put it down I had to rush to my computer to enter a review. I read it in 3 nights, and would have been less if I didn't have to be up early for work. This was a sweet story. It really had me feeling with and rooting for the characters. It is hard to do a review without spoilers, I will just say that the book is really not as predictable as you would think in this story. I just HAD to know how it ended. Over all, I say if the description appeals to you, pick up this book. It was a great read, with developed characters and a sweet story.

Perhaps because a part of me still believes in fairytales and happily ever after I'm biased, but this book hurts in all the right ways and causes one to really think about what it means to love and the choices we make in its name. What threads are you holding on to?

Most of the translated fiction that I've read has been fairly serious. I was surprised to find that is this a light hearted and fun book. There were elements in this story that I generally don't enjoy but that I didn't mind here because they were well written. Keenan and Kugy are attracted to each other but there are always obstacles in the way of their relationship. Kugy has a boyfriend from home. Kugy's friend sets up Keenan with her glamorous cousin who can help him get his paintings shown in a gallery. There are misunderstandings because people aren't communicating with each other. I was even okay with that for a while although it usually has me pulling my hair out in frustration. I liked the writing of the secondary characters as well. They are complete characters with their own story arcs who don't exist just to serve the needs of the main characters. In fact, it sometimes seems like they are just stopping in this story occasionally when it intersects with their real storylines unlike some books where it seems secondary characters hibernate whenever the main characters aren't around. Eventually though the repeated missed opportunities and bungled communication between the main characters started to wear down my enthusiasm. Eventually someone just has to say what they are thinking. I wish the story had ended a bit sooner with less "maybe I'll say what I'm feeling or maybe I'll just wait until next time" on repeat. There was also a lot of black and white thinking here. Either you can live a creative life or you can have a corporate job. You can't do both. This would be a good book for fans of New Adult fiction. Overall, I liked it and thought it was well written even if it overstayed its welcome for just a little bit.

I was hesitant as I started reading this book, but as each page went I became more and more engrossed in this story. I wanted to scream at the choices and actions, but I continued to read and fall in love with all of the characters. Great story with a captivating ending!

This would have been a 3 star review if the book was shorter. The conflict just wasn't substantial enough to carry the story as long as the author wanted it to. The characters became annoying and the plot lost its integrity about halfway through. *spoilers?* Also, I'm really disappointed that some pretty serious events were brought up, but never expanded upon or explored (the bombing in Bali and the changes in the village where the characters taught school.) What a wasted opportunity for

the author to inject some real emotional depth into the story.

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