



I Will Save You

By Matt de la Peña

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Newbery Medal-winning author Matt de la Peña's *I Will Save You* is a "heartwarming, root-for-the-underdog novel." [SLJ]

Kidd is running from his past and his future. No mom, no dad, and there's nothing for him at the group home but therapy. He doesn't belong at the beach where he works either, unless he finds a reason to stay.

Olivia is blond hair, blue eyes, rich dad. The prettiest girl in Cardiff. She's hiding something from Kidd—but could they ever be together anyway?

Devon is mean, mysterious, and driven by a death wish. A best friend and worst enemy. He followed Kidd all the way to the beach and he's not leaving until he teaches him a few lessons about life. And Olivia.

"A taut psychological novel...[with] intriguing, well-developed characters...[that] will stay with readers." -Booklist

"De la Peña skillfully captures the slippery sides of a schizophrenic personality in this heartwarming, root-for-the-underdog novel." -SLJ

An Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award Finalist

ALA-YALSA Best Book for Young Readers

An ALA-YALSA Quick Pick

A Junior Library Guild Selection

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up—Unexpectedly orphaned, 17-year-old Kidd Ellison finds himself at Horizons, a group home to help rehabilitate kids who have experienced trauma. Alone and lonely, except for a new friend, Devon, a dangerous young man with a death wish, Kidd decides to flee Horizons and his therapy program. He hitchhikes to Cardiff-by-the-Sea where the beach campsite manager, Mr. Red, who's still grieving the loss of his own son, takes Kidd under his wing and offers him a summer job. Kidd's life begins to brighten when he meets beautiful Olivia and a sweet summer romance blossoms. Then Devon appears unannounced and begins to make the moves on Olivia. Kidd instinctively knows he must save her—even if it means killing his best friend. Wisdom says keep your friends close and your enemies closer, but what if the enemy is you? Told in short chapters through journal entries, flashbacks, and real time, de la Peña skillfully captures the slippery sides of a schizophrenic personality in this heartwarming, root-for-the-underdog novel (Delacorte, 2010). Henry Leyva's narration is spot on, especially for confused and trouble Kidd. A great listen!—Cheryl Preisendorfer, Twinsburg City Schools, OH

From [Booklist](#)

After running away from a group home, 17-year-old Kidd Ellison sets up camp at a beach, where he is put to work by Mr. Red, an aging surfer who runs a maintenance shop. Hardworking and handsome, if somewhat slow, Kidd begins to make friends with some of the camp's teens, especially Olivia, a blond beauty who wears a ski cap that covers part of her face regardless of the weather. Then Devon, Kidd's former best friend and nemesis, finds Kidd and threatens to destroy the peaceful life that he has fallen into. De la Peña has crafted a taut psychological novel that will both frustrate and fascinate readers. Narrated by Kidd, it moves from the immediate past and a possible murder to the present, then to the far past, constantly offering clues to the mysteries of Kidd's sad and violent life. The intriguing, well-developed characters introduce themes of class and gender friction, creating a puzzling and sobering yet strangely hopeful book that will stay with readers. Grades 8-11. --Frances Bradburn

Review

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From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Catherine Branch:

What do you concerning book? It is not important along with you? Or just adding material when you require something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy man or woman? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They must answer that question simply because just their can do that will. It said that about book. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is appropriate. Because start from on pre-school until university need this kind of I Will Save You to read.

Lidia Flynn:

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Gregory Sims:

In this age globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended to you is I Will Save You this book consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This specific book was represented how do the world has grown up. The dialect styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some analysis when he makes this book. This is why this book suitable all of you.

Sherry Fitzgerald:

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