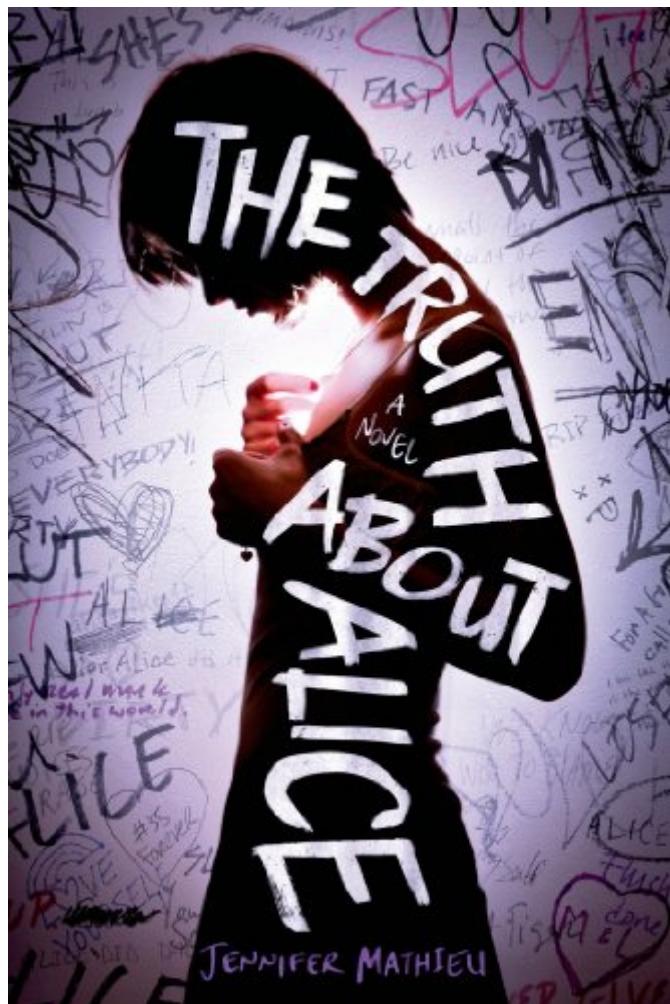


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# The Truth About Alice: A Novel



## **Synopsis**

Winner of the Children's Choice Book Awards' Teen Choice Debut Author AwardEveryone knows Alice slept with two guys at one party. When Healy High star quarterback, Brandon Fitzsimmons, dies in a car crash, it was because he was sexting with Alice. Ask anybody. Rumor has it Alice Franklin is a slut. It's written all over the "slut stall" in the girls' bathroom: "Alice had sex in exchange for math test answers" and "Alice got an abortion last semester." After Brandon dies, the rumors start to spiral out of control. In this remarkable debut novel, four Healy High students tell all they "know" about Alice--and in doing so reveal their own secrets and motivations, painting a raw look at the realities of teen life. But in this novel from Jennifer Mathieu, exactly what is the truth about Alice? In the end there's only one person to ask: Alice herself.This title has Common Core connections.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

A very well-done book about high school stereotypes and the reactions those stereotypes evoke. The book is divided into chapters, each told by one of four students: the popular, mean girl; the

popular, not overly bright jock; the brainy nerd; and the pretty virgin. It worked well...the story flowed easily and was very effective. Unfortunately, it just didn't interest me much. I feel this is definitely aimed at a younger audience (I'm 41). If you enjoy this type of book, however, this one is VERY well done.

I really liked that each chapter was written by one of the characters and I felt that each of the characters were very real portrayals of those types of personalities. Other readers have said they did not like any or most of the characters, but I enjoyed each of them. I guess I understood each of them, their motivations and reasoning even if I didn't agree with them and hope I wouldn't have reacted as they did. I especially enjoyed the portrayal of Alice as such a strong and interesting personality. I couldn't put this book down and I was super happy with the ending and I was very glad to find there was a surprise character at the end.

An infinity of stars of 5 stars Alice is a slut. The biggest slut in school. Maybe even the biggest slut in all of Texas. Probably not the biggest slut in the country, but you never know. Alice's sluttiness is even written all over a bathroom stall. That would never happen if it wasn't true. Everyone knows in her small town knows she slept with 2 guys at Elaine's party. Now everyone knows it's Alice's fault one of those guys, Brandon, a popular football player, is dead. If she hadn't been sexting him, he'd still be alive. Alice's former friends, Brandon's friends, and even the nerd who has a crush on Alice have stories to tell, reputations to maintain, and gossip to repeat. Finally, in the last chapter, Alice speaks. I added THE TRUTH ABOUT ALICE (TTAA) to my Wish List several months before publication. The plot seemed predictable, yet important. At \$9.99 and barely over 200 pages, I wanted to wait for the price to come down. While I waited for the price drop ALICE topped more and more Bests List, and my will started to break. I have a finite amount of money to spend on books, and I wanted to stretch those dollars. Then last month a friend gave me an gift card and I used it to buy books I really wanted, that priced more than I wanted to spend. If I knew how profoundly TTAA would impact me, I would have given up 3 books for ALICE. Enough about me. TTAA grabbed me from the first word in the first chapter. I wanted to grab hold of my Kindle read all the way through, but I wanted to extend the pleasure of reading experience. Jennifer Mathieu created half a dozen, realistic voices to tell the story of Alice's rise to sluttiness. Her peers initially seem like immature, backstabbers, more concerned with their social standings than the truth. The unique voices are people we've known, "friends", bullies, the kids we wanted to be, the kids we feared. Slowly, before I realized, their vulnerabilities snuck into their words and they became multilayered, sometimes

sympathetic, despite their horrid behavior. While many of the narrators were unreliable in their words, most of their unreliability was lost on their own insights, not the readers. Though we only know Alice through others until the last chapter, we know she's much more than a slut or a victim or a martyr. Covering themes of friendship, bullying, cliques, gossip, communication, religion, abortion, honesty, alcohol, drinking and driving, consent and assault, THE TRUTH ABOUT ALICE should be required reading for middle and high school students and their parents. TTAA is as pertinent to adult relations and communications as it is to tween and teens. ALICE is an important read for both boys and girls. If THE TRUTH ABOUT ALICE isn't the best book I've ever read, it's surely in the top 5. I feel sorry for the next book I read and review, ALICE is a very hard act to follow. Jennifer Mathieu is on the small list of writers who I'd read anything, including their grocery lists.

In this novel there are four students from Healy high called Elaine, Kelsie, Kurt, and Josh telling all they "know" of Alice Franklin, revealing secrets. In Healy high there is a girl named Alice Franklin and there is a rumor going around that she has slept with two guys on the same night and that she was the cause of the death of Brandon Fitzsimmons because he was sexting with Alice. Did she have an abortion? Did she really slept with two guys on the same night? And was she really the reason that Brandon Fitzsimmons died? Only one person really knows the truth the "real" truth, just ask Alice Franklin herself known as the biggest promiscuous girl in school. This is a great book, it gives you the feeling of realistic bullying, and the lies that people tell to protect themselves despite the consequences that may occur. Is really great told, with really excellent transitions to the story of Alice because its divided into four stories with different narrators that are not reliable and have secrets of their own that they do not want to reveal and when a author has the gift to make the reader read the book with different characters and the reader can imagine them with different voice and can identify them without getting lost he or she is a really great author. That is what Mathieu did, and she did a great job. While reading about Alice story it was painful and uncomfortable, but then you realize this happens to teen girls " way more than it should and it is tragic, so the author did a great job interpreting the message to her audience. Mathieu created a well appearance of all the teens sympathetically revealing their insecurities and what motivate their insecurities, it gives you a really good perspectives of the things teenage girls are going through nowadays. The author Jennifer Mathieu did a great job writing this novel, but there are things as a reader did not like. Some things were that she repeated things over and over again; for example about the night that Alice slept with two guys. I know she was supposed to repeat it, but she could have put in a few

conversations, and not almost all of the narratives the characters did. In conclusion the author did a remarkable job writing this novel; this is a really good novel or book for teens to read understand that words have consequences and just because someone says something it does not make it true. If you are interested in this novel you won't be disappointed, you would want to read more and more as you keep reading throughout the book.

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