



The Fall of Butterflies

By Andrea Portes

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We Were Liars meets *Looking for Alaska* in a uniquely funny and heartbreaking teen novel about a passionate-yet-doomed friendship set against a backdrop of wealth and glamour.

Willa Parker, 646th and least-popular resident of What Cheer, Iowa, is headed east to start a new life. Did she choose this life? No, because that would be too easy—and nothing in Willa's life is easy. It's her famous genius mother's idea to send her to ultra-expensive, ultra-exclusive Pembroke Prep, and Willa has no intention of fitting in. But when she meets peculiar, glittering Remy Taft, the richest, most mysterious girl on campus, she starts to see a foothold in this foreign world—a place where she could maybe, possibly, sort of fit in. When Willa looks at Remy, she sees a girl who has everything. But for Remy, having everything comes at a price. And as she spirals out of control, Willa can feel Remy spinning right out of her grasp.

Andrea Portes, author of the hilarious, heartbreaking *Anatomy of a Misfit*, spins a similarly incandescent, heartfelt story that explores the meaning of friendship, new beginnings, and the precarious joy and devastating pain of finding home in a place—a person—with wings.

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The Fall of Butterflies By Andrea Portes Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up—Willa Parker sits at the "freak" table at school and feels that she has a responsibility to take care of the others at the table. Because she "lost it" when defending Peanut Allergy Boy, her genius mother who lives in France and not with Willa and her father, decides to remove her from public school and the small town of Cheer and send her to a prestigious private school in the East. Willa, as to be expected, is not excited about going to Pembroke and leaving home but has no say in the matter. Remy, the first fellow student she meets, dresses strangely, smokes, and is getting yelled at by the head of admissions. She is rich, popular, and everything Willa is not. She also becomes her roommate and good friend, and because of Remy, Willa is quickly accepted at her new school. But being friends with Remy comes with a dangerous price, and as the popular girl spirals out of control, Willa must decide if the friendship is worth the price. The protagonist's voice is vibrant and authentic, and her journey from outcast to member of the in crowd to a mature teen is fraught with drama. The engaging although not always admirable characters, the family dynamics and their effect on the characters, and the resiliency of the spirit make this a thoughtful read. VERDICT Fans of Chelsey Philpot's *Even in Paradise* will enjoy this coming-of-age story with emotional appeal.—Janet Hilbun, University of North Texas, Denton

Review

"[Willa's] first-person narration is self-deprecating, deeply thoughtful, and thoroughly funny, with a sometimes-chiding direct address that pulls readers into her confidence. Snarky and painfully astute. But in a good way. (Kirkus Reviews (starred))

"As with *Anatomy of a Misfit*, Portes's second YA novel has a seductive zaniness and almost unstoppable exuberance... Willa's memorable voice and humor, as well as her longing to cultivate relationships that will anchor her more firmly to the world, will linger with readers." (Publishers Weekly)

"The protagonist's voice is vibrant and authentic... Fans of Chelsey Philpot's *Even in Paradise* will enjoy this coming-of-age story with emotional appeal." (School Library Journal)

"[Willa's] idiosyncratic, often mean, sometimes vulnerable voice is the highlight of this contemporary problem novel... Willa's realization that some loving relationships are also toxic, and the slow fracturing of Willa and Remy's friendship are believably painful." (Booklist)

"Remy's terrible choices throughout (including seducing a teacher) and her descent into drug abuse feel organic rather than histrionic, while Willa's emergence from the dark is hard-fought and believable." (Horn Book Magazine)

PRAISE FOR *ANATOMY OF A MISFIT*: "A self-deprecating and highly memorable heroine whose bawdy, laceratingly funny narration makes her instantly endearing while also revealing her flaws, uncertainties, and ethical quandaries." (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

"... a romance filled with seriously funny dark humor and tragedy." (Kirkus)

"It's rare that a book can be as funny and absolutely delightful as it is moving and thought provoking, and *Anatomy of a Misfit* is both." (Lauren Oliver, author of *Before I Fall*)

“Anika’s observations are razor-sharp, especially when she is describing other people... An introductory note says the story is based on the author’s ninth-grade experience. What a year.” (The Horn Book)

“Anika’s droll voice shines, and her emotions are palpable. After a heartbreaking tragedy, Anika’s ending . . . will leave readers cheering.” (School Library Journal)

“Fifteen-year-old Anika Dragomir throws her arms around us and draws us in from the very beginning... Droll, intimate, often laugh-out-loud funny narration carries the reader through more than 300 pages... Anika’s winning voice may just be the star of Portes’s first young adult novel.” (New York Times Book Review)

“Anika Dragomir is the funniest, snarkiest, most insightful misfit a reader could ever hope to meet. I laughed my way through *Anatomy of a Misfit* right up until the very end, when the book broke my heart into a million pieces. This is a beautiful, brave and powerful novel.” (Melissa Kantor, author of *Maybe One Day* and *The Breakup Bible*)

From the Back Cover

Willa Parker, 646th and least-popular resident of What Cheer, Iowa, is headed east to start a new life.

Did she choose this life? No, because that would be too easy—and nothing in Willa’s life is easy. It’s her famous genius mother’s idea to send her to ultra-expensive, ultra-exclusive Pembroke Prep, but Willa has no intention of fitting in at Pembroke. She’s not staying long, she decides. Not at this school—and not on this planet.

But when she meets peculiar, glittering Remy Taft, the richest, most mysterious girl on campus, she starts to see a foothold in this foreign world—a place where she could maybe, possibly, sort of fit in.

When Willa looks at Remy, she sees a girl who has everything. But for Remy, having everything comes at a price. And as she spirals out of control, Willa can feel Remy spinning right out of her grasp.

In Willa’s secret heart, all she’s ever wanted is to belong. But if Remy, the girl who gave her this world, is slip-sliding away, is Willa meant to follow her down?

Andrea Portes’s incandescent, heartfelt novel explores the meaning of friendship, new beginnings, and the precarious joy and devastating pain of finding home in a place—a person—with wings.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Angela Powers:

Here thing why this specific *The Fall of Butterflies* are different and reliable to be yours. First of all studying a book is good nonetheless it depends in the content of it which is the content is as tasty as food or not. The *Fall of Butterflies* giving you information deeper as different ways, you can find any publication out there but there is no reserve that similar with *The Fall of Butterflies*. It gives you thrill looking at journey, its open up your own personal eyes about the thing which happened in the world which is might be can be happened around you. It is possible to bring everywhere like in recreation area, café, or even in your technique home by train. If you are having difficulties in bringing the paper book maybe the form of *The Fall of Butterflies* in e-book can be your substitute.

Kelly McDowell:

The reason? Because this *The Fall of Butterflies* is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will surprise you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such amazing way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book get such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were being you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Sandra Earnhardt:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love *The Fall of Butterflies*, you may enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout people. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Rene Hudson:

This *The Fall of Butterflies* is great guide for you because the content that is full of information for you who always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it details accurately using great coordinate word or we can say no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read it hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but challenging core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having *The Fall of Butterflies* in your hand like obtaining the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no reserve that offer you world throughout ten or fifteen small right but this book already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt that?

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