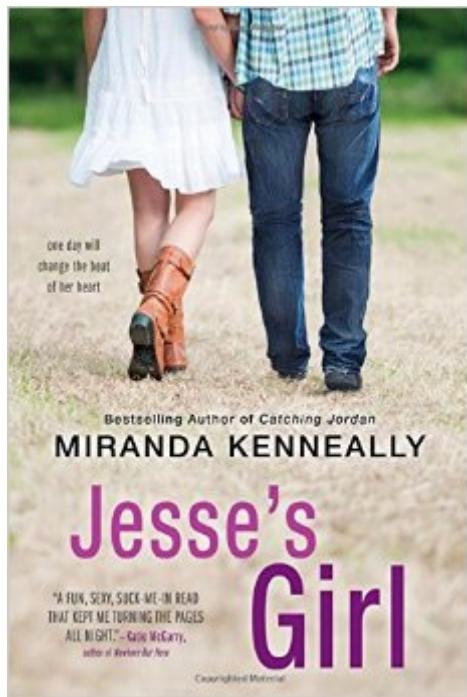


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# Jesse's Girl (Hundred Oaks)



## Synopsis

Practice makes perfect. Everyone at Hundred Oaks High knows that career mentoring day is a joke. So when Maya said she wanted to be a rock star, she never imagined she'd get to shadow the Jesse Scott, Nashville's teen idol. But spending the day with Jesse is far from a dream come true. He's as gorgeous as his music, but seeing all that he's accomplished is just a reminder of everything Maya's lost: her trust, her boyfriend, their band, and any chance to play the music she craves. Not to mention that Jesse's pushy and opinionated. He made it on his own, and he thinks Maya's playing back up to other people's dreams. Does she have what it takes to follow her heart-and go solo? Praise for Miranda Kenneally's *Breathe, Annie, Breathe*: "[An] expertly paced and realistic romance." -Booklist, starred review "Heartfelt, uplifting, and quite possibly enough motivation to make readers reach for their running shoes." -Publisher's Weekly "Breathe, Annie, Breathe is an emotional, heartfelt, and beautiful story about finding yourself after loss and learning to love. Her best book yet." -Jennifer L. Armentrout, New York Times bestselling author of *Wait for You*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm a sucker for books about music and musicians. Female musicians. Male musicians. Faux musicians. Famous musicians. Up and coming musicians. I don't know if this is because of the music fangirl in me or the former high school choir girl turned concert in the car girl, but I'm drawn to them. When I found out that Miranda Kenneally's new book was about a want to be rock star, adding it to my reading list was a no brainer. I was going to read it, for sure. The title, *Jesse's Girl*, in

itself inspires all of these 80's connotations so when we find out that Maya loves singing 80's covers and dresses like a punk chick, you can't help but love her. But it's Maya with all of her all of her ambition and self-professed awkwardness that makes her charming. It takes a while to warm up to Jesse. He's guarded, leary, and a bit jaded. There is a moment when a fan yells to Jesse, "My God, I love ketchup too." While funny, those are the types of mundane connections people try to have with him. So it's reasonable to accept that he isn't immediately forthcoming toward Maya. Slowly, but surely we get to know Jesse and then your heart melts for him. The Ferris Bueller like shadow day that Maya and Jesse had together makes for a great way for them to get to know each other and for the reader to know the characters. Readers go on the adventures with Maya and Jesse in the city and out in the country, as teens just being teens, but in a way that seems exciting. And readers get to experience the beginnings of a true connection, not a ketchup connection, between Maya and Jesse. They opened themselves up to criticism and to judgment and allowed the other person to see the "real" them - insecurities and all.

This is just the book I needed! Something with a sweet, southern romance, humor, and two characters who made it so easy to love them. I love it when an author introduces me to characters who don't hit right off. Jesse and Maya are about as opposite as you can get, though they have a talent for music, and doing things their own way, that connects them. Their first meeting is anything but sweep you off your feet. That part comes later on in the story. It's not until Jesse and Maya end up spending a day together, that I really fell for the two of them individually and together. Complete with a ode to Ferris Bueller's Day Off (I highly recommend you watch it if you've not seen it), and Maya's killer 80's Madonna inspired wardrobe, Jesse's Girl had the right amount of friction, sweetness, and snarky comebacks, that I couldn't stop reading it. One of the things I've come to love about Miranda's books, is the way she writes her romances. They're not sugar coated, but these realistic romances that are sweet, hot, frustrating, and beautiful. I felt like I got all that and more with Jesse's Girl. Despite the differences both Jesse and Maya have, they have something incredibly special together. They see each other for who they really are, and push each other to be better, and to follow their dreams. One of my favorite lines from the books is, "You have to take chances if you want a chance at your dreams." Following ones dream is a theme that drives Jesse and Maya in the book, though it doesn't make them forget who they are. I admired how open and honest they were with each other. Jesse and Maya come from totally different worlds.

What a great story! I've been eagerly looking forward to reading this book. Miranda Kenneally

released the first chapter a while ago and after finishing it I knew I had to read the rest asap. Luckily my wait wasn't that long, but it was so worth it! Maya and Jesse have this amazing chemistry that you can see almost from the first page and it continues throughout. I really liked Maya and Jesse. I liked Maya for her determination to make it on her own. I admired her for finding a way to do what she loved even with phobia she had. I loved her attitude for life and her love for her family. I hated how much she hurt when she realized the betrayal of those close to her. I wish she would've told Sam and he would've railed on the a-holes who did it. I loved seeing Maya and the rest of her family. I think it made a huge difference knowing they supported her unconditionally and the sacrifices they were willing to make to do so. Jesse was a surprise. I was at first taken aback at how abrupt he was, but I realized it was his protective armor. My heart broke for how cynical he'd become, but when some of what he'd faced was revealed, I understood why it'd become necessary. I also hated how he alone he felt. Jesse was talented, kind, giving, and sweet. I loved how he opened up to Maya. He shared a lot with her on their shadow day together. He also taught her like she'd wanted, both about music and about life. I loved seeing him enjoy himself on his day off with Maya. It's surprising how much Maya and Jesse had to teach each other. I liked how they supported one another. I hope Miranda Kenneally will give them cameos in another story one day, as guest characters. Speaking of seeing favorite characters. I loved the cameos by Jordan and Sam.

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