Saving Francesca, By: Melina Marchetta

By: Caysi Simpson

Saving Francesca is about a teenage girl names Francesca who was just sent to St. Sebastians away from the rest of her friends (or who she THOUGHT were her friends). As if that isn’t bad enough…there is 750 boys there and only 30 girls. St. Sebastians JUST opened up its doors to girls, which is why there aren’t many girls to begin with. The guys are mean, gross, or total jerks. They don’t allow the girls any privileges or rights, the girls are lucky they get their own bathroom! Francesca just wants to go to the school the rest of her girlfriends are going to. Francesca feels so out of place at St. Sebastians. Just when Francesca thinks her life is bad enough, her mother (Mia), becomes sick. Francesca, her brother, and her dad only think it’s a cold or the flu. But after a month goes by and their mom still isn’t even sitting up right, they know something else is wrong. Mia’s dad just says, “Everything will be fine,” and doesn’t even call a doctor.

Meanwhile, Francesca reaches out to a few girls, who end up becoming her friend. Together, the girls of St. Sebastians fight for their rights at the school and even make friends with some guys. One guy, Will Trombal, makes Francesca go weak at the knees and fall for him. But he confuses her. One minute he’s leading her on, and the next completely ignoring her. It takes help from Francesca’s friends (including the guys) to find herself and give her the courage to help her mom get better.

I really liked this book. When you read it it’s VERY sarcastic and full of drama, which I found pretty funny. But also it had a lot of depth if you think about it. It was really about this girl Francesca, who had no idea who she was and was dealing with so much stress. She needed help, and she had to reach out to others and make new friends in order to find herself. I liked that the book was funny, full of drama, and romantic all at the same time. It was a little inappropriate at some parts, and I sometimes got angry at the book thinking about how immature the characters are, but that’s teens and no one is perfect. I liked the ending (which I won’t give away), but I liked how it all just fell into place and everything ended up working out in different ways. I think a lot of girls would like this book, but not so much guys. Most girls like drama and romantic books, and I think reading this would make them laugh. I don’t recommend this to guys as much for a couple reasons. One reason is because it’s from a girls’ perspective about a girl’s life. Another reason is because it kind of portrays guys as complete jerks in this book (most of the guys anyways). The only reason I would recommend this to a guy is because some guys might find the humor funny. If you are a girl who likes romance, comedy, and drama in one book, then I would definitely read Saving Francesca.