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I Will Not Kill Myself, Olivia

Danny Baker



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I Will Not Kill Myself, Olivia Danny Baker First love never dies, but can depression bury it alive?

Like most young adults, Jimmy Wharton is trying to carve out a happy, successful life for himself. It's hard enough to do under any circumstances, but when he starts suffering from depression, becoming the person he wants to be feels overwhelmingly unachievable, as his illness seems destined to shatter his world.

Olivia, Jimmy's high school sweetheart and long-term girlfriend, initially tries to support him in every way she can. But as Jimmy spirals downwards, their relationship begins to break at the seams, and they are forced to face the devastating reality that as strong as they know their love is, the force of Jimmy's depression could be even stronger.

Set against the backdrop of Sydney's iconic Manly Beach, *I Will Not Kill Myself, Olivia* is a tale about the intoxicating, heartbreaking, unforgettable experience of first love; about all the mistakes we make on the road to adulthood; and about an illness that afflicts 350 million people worldwide.

You'll find this book appealing if:

- You're a fan of gritty, passionate love stories
- You want to relive the highs, the lows and the intoxicating rush that's unique to first love
- You're a young adult wanting to read about another young adult striving for the same things you are
- You're interested in understanding depression better; you suffer from depression yourself and you want to feel like you're not alone; or you want to see how you can better support a loved one with depression
- You're a parent of a young adult wanting to understand how easily your child can tumble into depression, and wanting to prepare yourself to be able to recognise the symptoms if they ever do (tragically, depression strikes about 20% of teens).

You're unlikely to enjoy this book if you:

- Despise swearing
- Are put off by explicit sex scenes
- Are after a light-hearted story

Editorial Reviews

"Centred around Jimmy and Olivia's heartfelt, passionate and troubled love, I WILL NOT KILL MYSELF, OLIVIA is a painfully honest, authentic and provocative novel ... one that presents a mesmerising portrayal of the all-consuming force of depression that dominates the main character ... one that takes the reader on a highly emotional journey ... and one that achieves a perfect balance of emotions, action and drama." The Columbia Review "A modern day Romeo and Juliet - a powerful, heartwrenching story that takes you on an emotional rollercoaster ride as Jimmy and Olivia try to hang on desperately to love in the face of Jimmy's mounting depression." Nick Bleszynski, bestselling author

"An explicitly realistic, absolutely intriguing and stunningly gritty novel ... one that snatches the reader's attention right from the start ... and one that provides fantastic food for thought for all young adults." Pacific Book Review

"A romance story that tugs at the heart, and entices readers with pure raw emotion ... from steamy, unadulterated throes of passion to being tossed into the deepest, darkest depths of despair, Baker creates an immersive world for Jimmy and Olivia ... you will feel their love, experience their torment, and empathize with their pain." San Diego Book Review

"While the protagonist's story can help people with depression to face their own problems and help non-sufferers understand the illness, I WILL NOT KILL MYSELF, OLIVIA will also appeal to a much broader audience - including young adults, who can view typical young adult behaviour from a different perspective; and parents, who after reading this book, may choose to become more attentive to their children." Portland Book Review

"One of the most singularly powerful books about depression on the market." Midwest Book Review

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Susan Velez:

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Harriet White:

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Shirley Raine:

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