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High on the perks at indi, Josie's doing a pretty good job of faking her way in the industry - even though she still hasn't mastered her hair straightener. But when Josie is invited to a media junket, she accidentally sets off a string of lies that threaten to ruin her reputation, love life and career forever.

Faking It Details

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From Reader Review Faking It for online ebook

Kate says

After reading Gabrielle Tozer's award winning *The Intern*, I wanted more. And lucky for me I got my wish in the form of *Faking It* – a sequel to Josie Browning's adventures as part time student, part time glamorous magazine writer.

When you love a book as much as I did *The Intern* there is always the lingering question of: can the author carry off such brilliance again? Am I going to be bitterly disappointed? Well let me tell you -- Gabrielle Tozer is no one hit wonder. If you liked *The Intern*, you are going to adore *Faking It*. This follow up to Tozer's debut novel has all the embarrassing moments, glitz and glamour of *The Intern* and plus some. Josie may have found a place for her in the city but happily ever after doesn't last forever.

What makes Josie's story so special isn't the high flying lifestyle she gets thrown into as a writer for an up and coming webzine. Nor is it the *Devil Wears Prada* energy which is captured beautifully.

It's how charmingly Tozer captures Josie's honesty and personality.

Ok – so that sounds a little like overkill.

But it's true. I loved how relatable Josie is – despite having next to nothing in common with her. I'm at a different life stage and her struggles have never been my struggles. Yet there's something truly authentic about Josie's voice. She's not forced. And despite the somewhat unbelievability of Josie's adventures there is something about them which rings true and makes you want her to succeed no matter how impossible it may seem. Josie is one of those strong independent female characters who often doesn't feel either of those things. She doesn't always do or say the right thing at the right time. And yes – she does make mistakes. But when it comes down to the wire she does manage to make things write. Her heart is in the right place. She's a bit like Bridget Jones for the New Adult set.

This book has the perfect mix of romance, females taking charge and friendship which I love to read in chick lit. Josie is busy trying to navigate her new job and the expectations put upon her by her boss and colleagues as well as finding her feel in her new relationship with James. The romance is fun to read with the chemistry between Josie and James adorable to read yet there are enough hurdles for their relationship to keep things interesting. Josie's job provides challenges as well as the occasional embarrassing moment. Familiar faces from *The Intern* pop up again and there are some new characters which add just the right level of drama to Josie's life.

Faking It is the perfect follow up to *The Intern*. This is one of those books which had me smiling throughout. It's funny and Josie's adventures can sometimes come across as absurd yet not in a way which feels wrong. I have loved the time I spent reading these characters and following them on their adventures.

If you like well written and funny stories about relatable characters who aren't as perfect as their lives may seem – check this duology out. You will not be disappointed.

Faking It in ten words or less: New Adult Chick Lit with the most charming characters

Starseeker says

This was a good sequel.

I liked these books because they're quick to read and a lot of fun as well.

The main character still annoys me a bit. WOMAN JUST THINK A LITTLE AND YOU WOULDN'T HAVE AS MANY PROBLEMS JEEZ.

I didn't feel any emotions for the character and I couldn't really connect to them.

Also, the author brings in random stuff at times where there really doesn't need to be anything and resolved them in like two sentences at the end.

Recommend if you're looking for something light and quick to read.

Aditi says

"You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can not fool all of the people all of the time."

----Abraham Lincoln

Gabrielle Tozer, an Australian author, has penned an entertaining and heart-touching sequel to her award-winning book, *The Intern* called, *Faking It* where the young adult protagonist, Josie Browning, fakes her way up the ladder to success in her new writing job with new friends and colleagues, while she has a perfect life that can make any girl envy of her, yet she lies, thereby forcing her to stand on the verge of sing her perfect and simple life.

Synopsis:

Things are looking up for Josie Browning. Her boyfriend, James, is crazy about her, and she's scored a writing job at indi. Now the pressure is on for Josie to prove she's got what it takes to help plan indi's launch. Plus, she's battling with flatmates, frenemies and confusing feelings for travel writer Alex.

High on the perks at indi, Josie's doing a pretty good job of faking her way in the industry - even though she still hasn't mastered her hair straightener. But when Josie is invited to a media junket, she accidentally sets off a string of lies that threaten to ruin her reputation, love life and career forever.

Josie Browning, the city girl, who is a part-time student and a part time writer for a newly established online magazine, indi. She also has a perfect boyfriend, James, with whom she goes on the perfect cliched romantic dates. But soon her perfect and happy life turns hectic when she has been asked by her superior to step up on the shoes of the director of indi following the director's sudden maternity responsibilities. It's a huge responsibility for a girl like Josie who is so out of league about the right words and socializing skills to charm the right people for their recently established online magazine's launch. And Josie's life suddenly starts to revolve around number of press junkets where high heels and straight, prim hair is a must along with her number one responsibility to book a female mega-pop-star for their online magazine's launch party, although by this time, Josie has mastered the skill in faking up about her life, despite the constant struggle to stay focus both on job, long-distance course, flatmates issues and her love life, yet her messy life somehow

lands her up into lots of trouble with her love life, virginity, career, with an added distraction from a hot travel writer named Alex. And within no time, her lies come undone that eventually threatens her to lose it all with just one strike.

The author's writing is really polished and articulate, laced with enough fun and emotions to allure the readers into the core of the story line. The narrative approach of the author is realistic, striking and extremely relatable from the readers' perspectives. Also the dialogues flow freely over the course of this story. Moreover, right from the very start, the story will pull any readers into its depth as the author has strikingly and descriptively laid out each and every scene from this book. The pacing is really swift as one event after another unfolds gradually and perfectly in sync with the overall progress of the story line.

The characters from this book are really well developed, even though they lacked character depth, yet somehow they will manage to leave an impression in the minds of the readers. The main character, Josie, right from the very beginning, honed a believable as well as honest demeanor that will make the readers root for her, also her growth and evolution through hurdles and struggles turns her into a thoughtful and mature lady despite of her tender age. Her charm, grace and witticism will grasp the readers' hearts. The supporting cast is also quite well etched out.

There is lots of romance in the book that the author has projected with lots of evocative and heartfelt emotions and compassion that will melt the readers hearts. The chemistry between Josie and James is sweet with a dash of hot passion, but the sparking chemistry between Alex and Josie is extremely intense and that the author has cleverly portrayed through the story.

In a nutshell, this compelling, satisfying and fun book is a must read for all who are looking for a light read!

Verdict: *A delectable and an amusing young adult book!*

Courtesy: *Thanks to the author, Gabrielle Tozer, for giving me an opportunity to read and review this book.*

Bree T says

In a short time, Josie Browning has come a long way. She has a cool new writing job at the brand new indi, an online magazine. She has a lovely boyfriend named James. She's left the country behind and moved into an apartment in the city.

But it's not always rainbows and butterflies. indi is about to launch and at the worst possible time, Josie's colleague Sia is put mostly out of action. Suddenly so much more is resting on Josie's shoulders and her boss is really riding her to produce the goods and counting on her. Josie is out of her depth for a lot of her new duties, including press junkets about beauty items and attempting to book a megastar for the indi launch party. Josie still has the obligations of her long distance university course to make also and she's being stretched further thin by the day. It seems that each event she attends brings about new and exciting ways to humiliate herself – she's dealing with a bitchy cohort of writers, a flatmate who is obsessed with the cleaning schedule and a travel writer named Alex who seems to show up at precisely the moment her dreamy boyfriend James begins to show that he might not be so perfect after all.

Josie has become a master of faking it but it's all starting to come undone. With everything including her job and her relationship hanging in the balance she's going to have to pull out all the stops to extricate herself from the mess.

I read *The Intern* last year and really enjoyed it so I was pretty excited when I found out that Josie would be getting a sequel in *Faking It*. It took me a while to find it locally, it came out last month I think and when I bought it I ended up reading it straight away. I did enjoy it but not as much as the first one.

I really like reading about characters who feel real, are awkward and have embarrassing moments but sometimes it can be difficult to read a book where that seems to be all that happens. The cringeworthy factor is so high that sometimes I get so embarrassed for them that I have to put the book down and take a break. It's like these things are happening to me and I can't bear to go on. At times it feels like Josie's life is basically one big cringeworthy moment and it's really hard to plow through it.

I felt sorry for her in this book because I think she got chucked in unfairly at the deep end in a way that shouldn't really happen to someone of her inexperience. I'm not just talking about industry inexperience – she's barely 18, she's still a student and she's really not got any of the contacts or pull to do half of what she's being asked to do. But she's also lacking in life experience as well, which makes it difficult for her to deal with social situations that crop up in the job she's doing for Sia. She's basically a sitting duck for the pack of fashion bitches who are already locked and loaded. I try to remember what it was like to be 18 and utterly out of my depth – heck I'm 32 and I'm still out of my depth most days. But there were times where I just wanted to shake Josie until her teeth rattled and say “Go to your Boss. Tell her what is happening. You're frickin' 18 years old. This is insane.” Instead Josie just buried everything away and attempted to soldier on. Most other times I wanted to shake her boss for precisely the same reasons. Her boss was ridiculous throughout pretty much all of this book except the ending.

Thankfully for Josie, she's nice. She's so nice that even the people who want to hate her can't even do it. She's a total dork but she also embraces that part of herself as well. To be honest, being nasty to Josie strikes me somewhat as easy to do as going out and kicking tiny guard-dog-in-training puppies or shooting yellow fluffy ducks. Even the fashion bitches' hearts don't seem to be in it after they get to know her. She and James are really cute together and I didn't mind her friendship with Alex either. James did show some cracks in his perfect exterior in this book – he did something pretty douchey and then a combination of Josie's inexperience coupled with James's issues over his previous relationship ended up blowing it into something huge.

There's some deeper messages hidden behind Josie's utter awkwardness, such as the whole sex thing – when is the right time? As well as saying I love you and how wanting that moment to be utterly perfect can lead to it being anything but. There's also the titular ‘faking it’ concept which is explored quite well but perhaps could've gone just a little bit deeper. Josie has been faking it for a while and her attempts to keep up the facade have led to her into nothing but stressful situations and disaster. I think a lot of people would've cracked under the pressure that was put on Josie and that she ended up handling things pretty well, considering. There were things she certainly could've done to ease the load on herself but there were also other people around her that really should've been more concerned about her ability to cope as well.

I did enjoy this – it's a fun read and it's really lovely to see Josie work her way out of these terrible situations but sometimes it made me super frustrated. It's quite possible that had I been Josie's age reading this, I'd have been able to identify with it so much more. Josie has sixteen-year-old me's dream job basically!

Sass says

Faking It is so cute. Josie is totally relatable, and I love that while there is a soupçon of romance it never overshadows the book's focus on Josie's growth into becoming her own person. Highly recommended to anyone who has ever felt (or still feels) like a fraud.

Emily Mead says

PERFECTION. ABSOLUTE PERFECTION. G Toze has done it again.

Also, I need a Josie in my life.

(although there's a distinct possibility I AM the Josie...)

ANYWAY, this was absolutely fabulous. I laughed and I cried and I cringed. Full review soon, but you're all going to love it.

I just...I can't even with this book.

I can be rational. I CAN BE. Seriously. I can discuss this book analytically, with great intelligence and wit, and I can...I can do it.

Okay, I can't.

READ THIS BOOK. SERIOUSLY.

Do you really need a reason? We all know I have superb taste in books. You should be running to the bookstore already. I mean, I read it THE DAY IT ARRIVED ON MY DOORSTEP (which was very convenient, by the way).

But just in case you don't trust every word I say (in which case, you should reflect very deeply on your values), here are some reasons you should read it.

Josie Browning.

The secondhand embarrassment is strong with this girl. Within the first couple of chapters, I was cringing so much I debated about whether I should continue (it was a very short debate...I needed to see what happened). Let's just say that I'm SO glad I've never been in her situation.

It was hard to read, but even harder to stop.

But Josie is seriously such a great character. She's real, she's awkward, she's passionate, smart, unsure of herself, navigating a world completely new to her – and rocking at it, by the way. She always tries to fix her mistakes and I really admire her for that.

The author and I have even come up with a hashtag – when you do something clumsy or goober-ish, you're #pullingajb

I think it's pretty excellent.

And the plot is awesome, too.

In contemporaries it's usually about the characters. And this is no exception. But Faking It also has a really great (slash cringe-worthy) plot, and the way it all ties together is brilliant. So what if some parts are unrealistic? If I wanted realistic I'd read non-fiction, and who wants to do that? Nobody.

We've also got some sisterly stuff going on.

Her sister Kat is kind of a brat. Hey, that rhymes. But I love how their relationship develops in this novel.

That was nice.

You will probably pee your pants.

Yes, it's that funny. Here's a snippet of conversation between my sister and me:

Emily: *laughs her arse off*

Sophie: oh my gosh, shut up, I'm trying to watch some stupid show.

(it may have been *Pretty Little Vampires* or the *Liar Diaries* or something. Not entirely sure)

Emily: no, Sophie, it's so funny.

Sophie: am I going to cringe? Is it going to be painful to read?

Emily: Yes. You're going to love it.

Sophie: ...give it to me when you're finished.

(she's reading it right now...I'll let you know what she thinks of it)

BUT ANYWAY, yeah, this book is hilarious. Which should be reason enough to get it.

Amid the hilarity, there are also some really heartfelt, genuine messages to be taken away from this book.

I admit to tearing up a little. BUT JUST A LITTLE, okay? Don't go thinking I have a heart or something.

But yeah, the end of this book was just lovely, and I love Josie so much and I love these books so much and I just. Asdfghlkhdltkhd. Seriously. That's all I can say.

I have no more words left.

Was that intelligent enough for you?

So, in a nutshell:

All the best parts of *The Devil Wears Prada*, all the best parts of *The Princess Diaries* plus its own incredible cast of characters and a kick-ass plot.

Read it.

Eugenia (Genie In A Book) says

This review and a confessional post by Gabrielle Tozer also appears on my blog *Genie In A Book*

Thank you to HarperCollins Australia for sending me a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

Light, cute, fluffy, and undeniably hilarious. Yes, *Faking It* is all of those things, but in this stunning sequel to *The Intern*, Gabrielle Tozer has struck the perfect balance between a story that will make you laugh, yet deliver a deeper message at its core. While my expectations may have been high, I am so happy to say that they have been exceeded.

If there's one word to describe that Josie Browning gets up to in this book, shenanigans would be it (and lots of them). In many ways, she's the epitome of the socially-awkward, eager-to-please and self confessed 'nerdbot' that many of us can relate to. She's got the same issues that a lot of young women face, trying to deal with the responsibilities of her dream job while balancing a personal life and boyfriend. What I love about Josie is that she's a character who transcends off the page and seems real. In the midst of all the trouble she gets into with her myriad of personal disasters and trying to fit in with the 'cool crowd' of the media circus, she has the kind of vulnerability and inner strength that is a reflection of what many of us feel too at times. Realistic and likable characters are a big plus in contemporary YA, and this is just one of the reasons why *Faking It* gets a big tick from me.

Even I had to admit I was getting awfully good at this faking-it business.
Maybe too good.

While the representation of the media in these books may not be 100% realistic, it still makes for a good story. It was nice to see that the secondary characters were also well developed in this book, like James who we get to see more of, along with Sia and Laini working at Indi. If anything, *Faking It* gave a glimpse into the pressures involved with working in the media and all the different types of colourful personalities within it. There were some great sub-plots working alongside Josie's personal journey which added more depth to the primary storyline.

My name is Josie Browning, I'm eighteen years old and I'm a fake...but I don't want to be any more.

What cinched the deal for me was Josie's transformation and self-discovery. That may sound a little cliched, but in this case it rings true. Not only did she tackle the issues in her own family, but within her own character as well. No she's not perfect - but who is? She has flaws, but she tries her best to confront them as best as she can. That's what makes her admirable and someone you want to read about.

FINAL THOUGHTS

If you've read *The Intern*, you're sure going to love *Faking It* which is just as good! This is a contemporary YA series that ticks all the boxes, as enjoyable reads that would be perfect for these summer holidays. Through Josie's story we learn that though at first we might 'fake it till we make it', at the end of the day it's being true to yourself that really matters.

Cassandra Page says

Faking It is the sequel to *The Intern* - however, it stands alone, so if you get the opportunity to pick up the second book and want to dive straight in, the experience won't be too rocky.

I devoured *Faking It* in a couple of sessions - it's very light, fun and easy to read, with a fair number of cringeworthy moments. Josie Browning has gotten perhaps a tiny bit better at thinking before she speaks (a *very* tiny bit) and her clumsiness is less of a feature in this book. But she still manages to get herself into all manner of tricky situations, mostly by not admitting she needs help when she does. Hence the whole "faking it" thing, of course. That's kind of the point.

(I was actually really mad at Liani, Josie's boss, for throwing the poor girl so far into the deep end at various points that she couldn't even see the edges of the pool anymore. I mean, seriously, woman -- you can't be mad when Josie screws up under that much pressure. She's 18 and hasn't even finished her journalism degree yet! What would she know about dealing with celebrity agents and organising magazine launches?! Okay, I've got that out of my system now...)

James is sweet, and I loved the adorkable dynamic between him and Josie. He does drop the ball in a pretty spectacular fashion at one point, and then overreacts at another (at least as far as I am concerned) - but that's part of what makes him a more realistic love interest rather than being a perfect cardboard cutout.

However, for me, the shining treasure in this book is the dialogue, especially Josie's. Her intermittent verbal filter meant that she often came out with lines that had me giggling, and at other times were raw in their honesty. And the back-and-forth banter was something I could totally hear in my head. It seemed so natural.

The other thing I really enjoyed was catching a glimpse of Josie's mother recovering from her shattered relationship and starting to date again. Even though Josie was quietly horrified, I was all, "You go, Josie's mum!"

This series is fun, fluffy YA. The plot is fairly predictable but Josie is so enjoyable a main character that I didn't mind. Now, can we have a spin-off about Alex, please?

4.5 stars

texbsquared says

This was just okay. I enjoyed it, but it wasn't wonderful. Not as good as the first one, I think, and Josie absolutely drove me up the wall. I understand the vulnerability of being eighteen, but she was bloody useless. Every stupid decision she made, every splutter and blush and total lack of spine just got under my skin.

However! It was a cute enough read for a Saturday afternoon, and I liked the few little 'tough love' moments.

Paige (Illegal in 3 Countries) says

I gave it a good shot, but Josie isn't that interesting, her voice doesn't work for me, and the "no homo"

comment she makes when complimenting a female co-worker put me off her as well.

It's not that this is the sequel to a book I didn't read. Multiple times, I've read the sequels before the first book of a series! (For Jeanine Frost's Night Huntress series, I read the fourth book first and THEN went back to read the first book when I enjoyed #4.) *Faking It* just isn't catching my interest.

Gave up after 100 pages.

Karina says

I can't even with these books guuur! They are just so funny and heartfelt. They make me laugh and feel all squishy inside. Thanks for creating such a relatable and adorkable character - Josie is my new spirit animal.

Lee Parker says

I received a copy of this for free through Goodreads First Reads

This was a quick, easy read. I really liked Josie's quirkiness. While I understand that that won't appeal to some people, I thought it really worked.
