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Trista Mateer

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Taking National Poetry Month's poem-a-day challenge one step further, for her fourth collection, Trista Mateer has not only compiled a chapbook of her 2016 '30 for 30' poems, but she has also chosen to include nearly everything else written in the month of April. This comes in the form of handwritten notes and poetry fragments, iPhone note poetry, tweets, Craigslist ads, and more. This mix of poetry and prose spans a single month and covers topics such as heartbreak, gender, sexuality, and forgiveness.

[Redacted] Details

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Author : Trista Mateer

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Kelley Cantrell says

Raw, honest, and beautiful.

Tania Duarte says

I'd read Trista before, but I'm honestly in love with this book. In love with how raw and honest her words come across, and also how many of them hit very close to home. Something that caught my attention, in the best way possible, was the way she made poems out of such "21st century" things like tweets and e-mails (that e-mail poem? Your e-mail apology doesn't mean shit? Mind!!! blown!!!). So clever, so beautiful, so heartbreakingly real.

Shannon O'Connor says

Effortlessly amazing

Once again Trista has left me breathless with her words. She never shys from speaking the truth and being blunt about how she feels and deals with things. Her poetry is so raw and beautiful I am once again in love with her books. She touches upon all her past romances and lovers the struggle of letting go, but reminding the reader that it is okay to hold on until you're ready to let go.

Isabelle says

Sometimes I say that a book was like reading the poet's diary. Here I almost want to take out the 'like' – this book is the epitome of honesty and openness. It seems like a book dedicated to apologising to everyone Trista feels she has ever hurt in person or via her poetry (and in places explaining to some, that if her words hurt them, good!) I did find it captivating but not as a 'poetry' book but simply as the story of the writer – it includes tweets and phone entries and intimate conversations.

Farah says

A very enjoyable read

Something a bit different. The style of writing is different from what I've become accustomed to of poetry books and something I quite enjoyed experiencing. It's always quite a privilege when somebody bares their soul to you and allows you to see who they are. I feel like the author did that again and again throughout each poem and it made the poems hold so much more weight. If you're looking to understand others or even understand yourself more, then this is definitely a good place to start.

Sam Blondell says

Wow

Wonderful poetry written to strike a match in your heart and gut. Reminding you of your own history of love

Erin Clements says

[redacted] is an absolute work of art. It's brilliant, one of my favorite chapbooks I've ever read. I highlighted so much of the text that approximately half the book is now yellow, but I relate to it in ways I never expected.

Helen says

the poet knows the exact taste of regret and never tries to wash it out of her mouth. the poet holds onto grudges until her fingers bleed.

God, I LOVED this. This collection is EVERYTHING - and it's currently FREE in the Kindle store in honour of National Poetry Month/NaPoWriMo, as this collection was written during NaPo a few years back. So go and pick it up right now, you have no excuse not to.

there's a reason our star sign looks like a wishbone.

This collection was super interesting. It was a conglomeration of poems in multi-media forms - some through texts or tweets or emails, some handwritten, or accompanied by teeny cute illustrations or pictures of dried flowers. It added a little extra something to the whole thing, seeing all these different snippets of life and creativity. As someone who has personally written poems on anything from receipts to bits of torn crisp boxes in times of sudden inspiration (shelf-stacking and poetry sometimes come hand in hand for me, oops), I felt the whole thing was really homely and had a great DIY feel to it.

The poems themselves were so raw and personal, which I really appreciated. They were often painful to read, and so direct. I can only aspire to be as unflinchingly blunt as Trista Mateer is in this collection. There were beautiful lines, sad lines, scary lines and some amazing metaphors contained within them, and the whole thing just felt so authentic.

Overall, I loved this. I think it's probably one of my favourite collections of poetry I've ever read and I recommend it for sure!!

so the poem hurt you. it was supposed to

Kira Schumacher says

As far as character inspiration goes, I always find it in Trista Mateer's books and this one just has been full of heart-wrenchingly honest feelings and thoughts and relationships, and just the whole package. This has been a direct improvement to my saturday. And my own writing, in that matter. ♥

Kyra says

Every airport poem smashes into my heart. Which is to say, Trista is one of the most accessible, emotional poets writing today.

Luna Valentine says

she tells a good story, i always enjoy trista mateer's work but this might just be my favorite, i even ended up writing a poem while reading.

Jade says

"Redacted" is the most personal book of poetry I have read. Trista shows a certain sense of vulnerability by allowing readers glimpses into her personal life - iPhone messages and notes, inner contemplation, and late night musings. A beautiful stand alone, "Redacted" showcases why poetry is still very, very much alive.

Caitlin Conlon says

JESUS this was good. Holy shit. The mixed media, the words, the everything. Everything about this touched me so intimately.

Emma says

Trista's poems are always brilliant, but these felt particularly like a conversations she was having with herself - examining and interrogating poet, poems and public persona - in a way I don't think she did so much in her previous collections. This isn't self-critical as a hollow disclaimer, the poems feel genuine and charming - soft and difficult and beautifully messy, as so many of us find our 20s to be.

Emrys says

Raw, real, wonderful.
