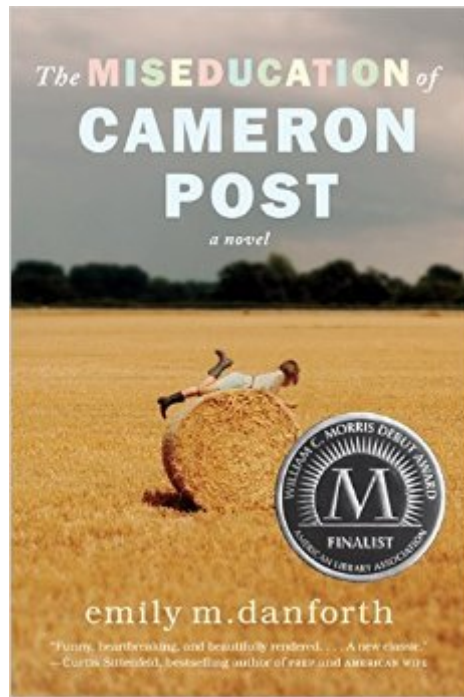


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The Miseducation Of Cameron Post



Synopsis

Set in rural Montana in the early 1990s, Emily M. Danforth's *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* is a powerful and widely acclaimed YA coming-of-age novel in the tradition of the classic *Annie on My Mind*. Cameron Post feels a mix of guilt and relief when her parents die in a car accident. Their deaths mean they will never learn the truth she eventually comes to—that she's gay.

Orphaned, Cameron comes to live with her old-fashioned grandmother and ultraconservative aunt Ruth. There she falls in love with her best friend, a beautiful cowgirl. When she's eventually outed, her aunt sends her to God's Promise, a religious conversion camp that is supposed to cure her homosexuality. At the camp, Cameron comes face to face with the cost of denying her true identity. *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* is a stunning and provocative literary debut that was a finalist for the YALSA Morris Award and was named to numerous best lists.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (181 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

As young adult readers, it's somewhat rare for us to run into a book that's more than 400 pages long, and when we do, I feel like those books fall into one of three categories. There are those lengthy YA books that are so engrossing and quick paced that you just gobble them up without ever noticing the length (see *Grave Mercy*), there are those that you feel could have had 100+ pages cut and have been better for it (see *Partials*), and then, there are those that are worth consuming slowly, taking in each word and phrase as it comes because every one of them has been carefully considered and placed to enrich the story. *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* is this third kind of book. I'll admit I was intimidated by its girth, but I found every moment that I spent reading filling me

up in a way that hearty wheat bread can fill your belly--with nourishment and substance. Now, I'll admit, a lot of my attachment to *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* arose from the fact that this book, more than any other I have ever read, exemplifies my childhood. If you want to know what it was like growing up in small town Wyoming in the 90s, not too far from Billings, Montana--it's not all that different from growing up in small town Miles City, not too far from Billings, Montana. Cameron and I went to the same mall to do school shopping, we stop at the same airport, and more importantly, our towns share the same businesses, people, and atmosphere. I cannot tell you how badly I was craving Taco Johns every time it was mentioned, and I am so sad for all of you that don't live in the mountain states and know its glory (you know, as glorious as a Mexican fast food chain can be). When Emily M. Danforth wrote of thunderheads gathering on the horizon, I could smell it, and feel the hot, dry summer air.

All of my friends on Goodreads, who have read this book have raved about it. I was expecting one of the best books I've ever read. But I was not immediately wowed by this book, I got nervous. My interest was piqued, but I by no means was obsessed. I couldn't stop reading it - read it in one sitting, but that was because I was waiting for something big to happen. Something that would blow my socks off, but that something never came. There was no "wow" factor for me. The pace was very slow and I never felt any real emotion from the narrator that I could connect with. I actually skimmed some parts of it, when I couldn't get into the book. I hate to admit to skimming because I feel like I'm degrading the author's work, but as my mind tired of some parts, my eyes wandered along. I loved the idea of the plot and the set up for the story. Since it was split up into sections of Cameron's life, you were able to watch as she developed into a woman and into her sexuality. I only wish that she had someone to support her and understand that her sexual preference is not a choice. We love who we love and that is that. I love the friends that Cameron makes in *God's Promise*, which is basically a camp from unwanted people. There is a former drug addict and many homosexuals in attendance. Cameron's friends, Jane and Adam, are great characters. They add comedy and also are great friends for Cam. I truly connected with Jane and Adam and would've loved more with them, even though there was a lot! I am a full supporter of gay rights and to see people so mistreated in this book because of their sexual orientation was horrifying to me. But so realistic. A friend of mine was actually sent to a camp like mentioned in this story. She hated it and it did nothing to change her.

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