Winner of the Children’s Choice Book Awards' Teen Choice Debut Author Award

Everyone knows Alice slept with two guys at one party. When Healy High star quarterback, Brandon Fitzsimmons, dies in a car crash, it was because he was sexting with Alice. Ask anybody. Rumor has it Alice Franklin is a slut. It's written all over the "slut stall" in the girls' bathroom: "Alice had sex in exchange for math test answers" and "Alice got an abortion last semester." After Brandon dies, the rumors start to spiral out of control. In this remarkable debut novel, four Healy High students tell all they "know" about Alice—and in doing so reveal their own secrets and motivations, painting a raw look at the realities of teen life. But in this novel from Jennifer Mathieu, exactly what is the truth about Alice? In the end there's only one person to ask: Alice herself. This title has Common Core connections.

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**Synopsis**

The Truth About Alice is such a difficult book to review. This story is told in POV's from everyone except Alice. It's unusual, yet I loved it because we could really understand the real motivations behind bullying Alice. Her reputation was shattered. And even if we didn't know what Alice was
feeling, we knew that she still held her head high. We know that Alice is strong (even if she is suffering some pretty bad things). But we get more insight as to why everything is happening, because Alice isn’t actually in the loop. The Points of View in this book were: Elaine: the school’s Queen Bee Kelsey: Alice’s ‘best friend’ Josh: a football player, Brandon’s ‘best friend’ Kurt: school nerd (the only nice person in this whole book). They all have a different story to tell, and we get to see why they all (except Kurt) contributed to Alice’s downfall. Out of all of the characters, the one that hurt me the most was Kelsey. Kelsey was supposed to be Alice’s ‘best friend!’ She was supposed to be there for her! Yet, she decided she loved popularity more. It makes my blood boil. Kelsey was immature, naïve, and childish. I genuinely hated her. The writing accommodated to each character that was narrating. With Elaine, the writing was very juvenile and overly simplistic; Kelsey had an overall feel of desperation (to be popular, to fit in); with Josh it had kind of like a frat boy feel, like a boy who hadn’t yet matured; with Kurt the writing was actually wonderful and fluid. He expressed himself appropriately, and his thoughts were really poetic and thought provoking. I probably enjoyed his chapters the most because he’s the one who we got the most character insight from.

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