



Undiscovered Gyrl (Vintage Contemporaries Orig)

By Allison Burnett

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Beautiful, wild, funny, and lost, Katie Kampenfelt is taking a year off before college to find her passion. Ambitious in her own way, Katie intends to do more than just smoke weed with her boyfriend, Rory, and work at the bookstore. She plans to seduce Dan, a thirty-two-year-old film professor.

Katie chronicles her adventures in an anonymous blog, telling strangers her innermost desires, shames, and thrills. But when Dan stops taking her calls, when her alcoholic father suffers a terrible fall, and when she finds herself drawn into a dangerous new relationship, Katie's fearless narrative begins to crack, and dark pieces of her past emerge.

Sexually frank, often heartbreaking, and bursting with devilish humor, **Undiscovered Gyrl** is an extraordinarily accomplished novel of identity, voyeurism, and deceit.

"Imagine an 18-year-old Lolita, updated for the 21st century, blogging her own provocative adventures. By turns charming and crude, disturbingly reckless and achingly tender, *Undiscovered Gyrl* seduces you into her downy arms, locks her long legs around your waist, and doesn't let go." — Rachel Resnick, author of *Love Junkie*

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Amazon Exclusive: Christopher Rice Reviews *Undiscovered Gylr*

Christopher Rice is the author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *A Density of Souls*, *The Snow Garden*, *Light Before Day*, and *Blind Fall*. The son of author Anne Rice and the late poet Stan Rice, he lives in Los Angeles. Read his exclusive Amazon guest review of *Undiscovered Gylr*:



Undiscovered Gylr is the blog of beautiful, blond, Katie Kampenfelt, an 18-year-old girl who seeks to record, for her own edification, the year following her high school graduation.

The novel begins as the diary of an ebullient, funny teenager, filled with the musings, mood swings, and escapades of youth. We are in her skin as she plots her break-up with her college-age boyfriend, battles with her mother, considers whether to sleep with a 32-year-old film professor, confronts a terrible truth about her new boss, and lands a new job as nanny to a newborn.

Soon, however, the story deepens into the engrossing record of a young soul in peril.

Gossip Girl this ain't.

Allison Burnett's novel reads as both a searing glimpse into a tortured teenage psyche, and a skillful meditation on the cruel excesses of the Internet Age. Katie Kampenfelt's voice feels utterly authentic, disturbingly so, making for a protagonist who is as riveting as she is infuriating.

The story is revealed through a series of terse blog entries, but they are studded with haunting imagery and unforgettable turns of phrase. Ultimately, this is the dark tale of one girl's unquenchable thirst for love and acceptance, but Allison Burnett tells it with a fearlessness that elevates those time-worn concepts above the realm of Hollywood cliché.

Prepare yourself for a page-turning, single-sitting read that will leave you disarmed and disturbed and questioning your own engagement with the Internet's capacity for anonymity and fantasy.--*Christopher Rice*

(Photo © Gwen and Eddie Photography)

From Publishers Weekly

Written as a blog, this debut novel stars Katie Kampenfelt, who types away at her very own Internet reality show. A sassy suburbanite teenager who defers college for a year, Katie takes a job as a nanny for a wealthy family and chronicles her day-to-day life online in the time of Netflix, Barack Obama and Internet lingo. The divulging blog entries start in October 2007 and end in May 2008, instantly gaining popularity as Katie confesses her promiscuous behavior and charts her uncensored thoughts and emotions. Her audience provides constant feedback, both supportive and critical. She notes that only on the Internet can one be both lonely and popular simultaneously, which is a comment on our culture and being 17. When Katie's admittedly superficial arrogance is under control, she is insightful and hilarious, exposing her fears and insecurities. Name and event changes in order to keep the blog's anonymity are disappointing, a fiction within fiction, and raises the question, what is truth? On the Internet, who is really anonymous? Perhaps our dear Katie wasn't such an undiscovered gyrl after all. Burnett's novel is intriguing, but seems at times contrived. (Aug.)

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Review

"[Katie's] raw, young voice describing the sordid situations she finds herself in—seeks out, really—is authentic teenage girl. . . . Intensely self-aware, angry, alienated and filled with teenage narcissism and pain. . . . When the ending kicks in with a twist . . . it forces you to realize you lost yourself in the plot and character and read for pleasure. This makes you complicit in the consequences, turns you into a reader, yes, but also into one of Katie's voyeurs." —*Los Angeles Times*

"Allison Burnett has magically brewed an addictive elixir. Blogging, self-absorption, and bad behavior slowly build into a touching and deeply moving narrative, yet Burnett chooses to serve this concoction unadorned, a shot of vodka—all the better to feel the ending's burn. If you've ever been tempted to dismiss the next generation, *read this book*." —Amanda Boyden, author of *Pretty Little Dirty* and *Babylon Rolling*

"Imagine an 18-year-old Lolita, updated to the 21st century, blogging her own provocative adventures. By turns charming and crude, disturbingly reckless and achingly tender, *Undiscovered Gyrl* seduces you into her downy arms, locks her long legs around your waist and doesn't let go. Shot through with teenage yearning for 'true love,' each page vibrates with the quicksilver spirit of youth. As we follow the narrator on her ever-darkening journey, questions arise about voyeurism and identity in an age of cyber-anonymity. Allison Burnett's masterful page-turner lingers long after the last page." —Rachel Resnick, author of *Love Junkie*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Cynthia Caron:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be change about what going on or data even knowledge to make them keep up with the era which is always change and progress. Some of you maybe can update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know what type you should start with. This *Undiscovered Gyrl* (Vintage Contemporaries Orig) is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and want in this era.

Willie Navarro:

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