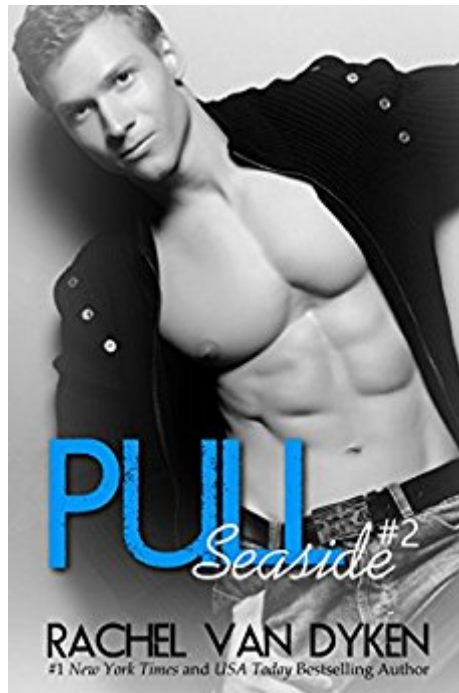




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Pull (A Seaside Novel Book 2)



Synopsis

Jaded rock star, Demetri Daniels, is in Hell – also known as Seaside, Oregon. Sent to rehab after nearly getting himself killed last year, his record company wants nothing more than for him to lay low, away from the limelight. Irritated and more alone than he's ever been in his life, Demetri tries desperately to rebuild his shattered reputation as a drug addict and player, which proves to be difficult when he meets Alyssa. Alyssa is everything he should stay away from. She's beautiful, smart, but above all else, she's damaged. And one thing Demetri has learned is two broken hearts don't equal a whole. In the end, he has to decide if he can rise above the life he's created in learning from his past mistakes, or fall into the darkness of his choices. **This is a New Adult Novel..minor language, drug usage, and sexual situations. Not appropriate for younger readers**

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I recently received an advance copy of Van Dyken's latest book, Steal, the fourth book in the Seaside Pictures spin-off of the Seaside series. I didn't know that even

though *Steal* is a standalone, it is part of a series of interconnected standalones featuring characters from the *Seaside* series. So after I finished *Steal*, which I LOVED, I had to go back to the very beginning, thus begun my binge reading of previous volumes of both stories. To say that I can't get enough is an understatement. *Pull* is Demetri's story of finding love in the sleepy coastal town of Seaside. I'll be honest; I kind of loved the love triangle of Demetri/Nat/Alec, but was happy to see that Nat and Demetri's close relationship only seemed to get stronger, just in a platonic way. Demetri is out of rehab and returns to Seaside to help get his life back in order. He meets Alyssa, his taffy nemesis one day as he is hawking taffy out on the street (you'll just have to read it to understand, it's hilarious BTW). Taffy has become Demetri's way of dealing with his addictions and the sticky candy becomes a hilarious character in itself. The antagonistic nature of Demetri and Alyssa's relationship generates some serious sexual attraction between the two and they soon start up a relationship, even with the challenges of Demetri's past and Alyssa's upbringing. Can they get over those hurdles to be together? How will Alyssa deal with Demetri's celebrity status? Alec and Nat are still a part of the story, which I appreciate given my love for them. Unlike the first book in the series, *Tear*, this story is told in a dual POV from both Demetri and Alyssa's points of view. I loved hearing Demetri's side of the story throughout the book and how he faced his demons. The series is ramping up to be one to center around an ensemble cast, something that I absolutely adore. Again, Van Dyken pulled me in at the first page and I fell in love all over again. I'll continue my binge and thankfully I have quite a few more books to keep me busy!

This story was heavier than the first one as it dealt A LOT with grief and regret. While it was well informed and sensitive, it was hard to find the love story between Demetri and Alyssa when Alyssa's previous boyfriend Brady was such a great guy. Every time Alyssa went back in time to a memory with Brady, I fell more in love with him and swooned. No, he was not perfect but neither is Demetri and sweet Alyssa deserves true love. I could definitely see why it was so hard for her to move on. Honestly, it was very depressing. The story starts off with the rock star, Demetri, getting a lowly job at the taffy shop which required masses amount of REALLY SUSPENDING BELIEF! Demetri, crushed by a broken heart, drug addiction and reckless driving, is trying to turn his life around with the help of his therapist and closest friends. He wants the consuming love his brother has with Natalee, but feels he has used up his one chance at true love when his girlfriend died in a car

accident. Natalee talks him into a common job working at the taffy shop because he has no inspiration to write songs. While there, he meets the competition in the form of Alyssa, the beautiful, sarcastic girl who was not charmed by who he is and becomes his muse. Thus begins their love story: "What if you take the one part of me that's finally started to breathe without crying?" - Alyssa "No. I won't leave you alone. I won't abandon you. I'm sure as hell not going to listen to you, and you can damn well know that I'm going to fight for you". - Demetri

Both Alyssa and Demetri have suffered loss and, I am not going to lie, the grief sessions at Demetri's house made me tear up. There were these flash backs of Alyssa and her boyfriend Brady that were so sweet, that the loss hurt that much more. It was hard to read. The whole book was emotionally draining and, while many will find this romantic, it is not my type of story. Was it as good as *Tear*? Well, not really; it was definitely emotional, but not as romantic or filled with good drama, just sadness. At least it didn't have a stupid love triangle, I really hate those. You could really tell a female was writing Demetri's thoughts and it was a little lame sometimes because, as he confesses himself, he was really acting like a girl.

Some confusion on story integrity: Demetri claims to be both nineteen and eighteen in the book which is it? Also, how hard all these kids fell in love at such a young age (15) - it is so *Romeo and Juliet*. And Alec and Nat's relationship sure got boring - where'd their spice go? It's too early for the honeymoon to be over! And his reveal to Demetri that he might have got another girl in trouble was just wrong on so many levels. Apparently book 3, *Shatter*, will be written from Alec's POV and will strain his relationship with Nat as AD2 becomes REALITY TV.

Rachel Van Dyken is an entertaining writer who always keeps me turning the pages, and even though this one was too heavy for me, I will definitely be purchasing book 3! Her stories are definitely YA, not New Adult, but for .99, it is a STEAL. No Swearing or sex; but there was intense kissing, drug and alcohol use and sleepovers. Would I/Did I buy it? Yes (.99) Would I read it again? Probably Would I recommend it to friends? Yes

Rachel you have done it again. Fantastic continuation with the story of AD2 rock duo Alec & Demetri Daniels and their stories of heart ache and coping with the life they have been dealt. We get to follow Demetri in this book. He has a lot to deal with, addiction to drugs and alcohol and man whoring. When Demetri meets Alyssa, a girl who has been through so much at such young age. Feeling the pain along side with these young people as their lives intertwine. So much happens and somehow Demetri finds the will to help Alyssa through her trouble past before it swallows her up. Even with all his issues, wow how he deals and then allows Alyssa to shine again. This is a wonderful love story and with all the pain and drama the author captures your heart and now you

are along for the ride. As usual, wonderful story telling, passionate, provocative, heart wrenching, lovely, funny. Looking forward to the 3rd book in this series, really loving these characters, brilliant.

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