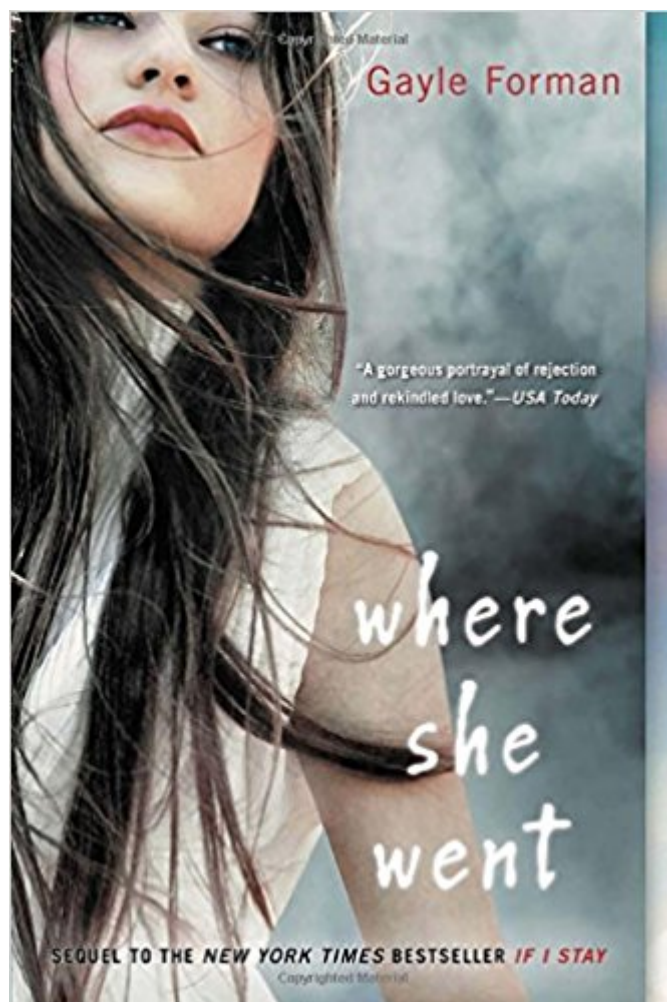


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Where She Went



Synopsis

The highly anticipated sequel to the New York Times bestselling and critically acclaimed *If I Stay* picks up several years after the dramatic conclusion of *If I Stay*. *Where She Went* continues the story of Adam and Mia, from Adam's point of view. Ever since Mia's decision to stay - but not with him - Adam's career has been on a wonderful trajectory. His album, borne from the anguish and pain of their breakup, has made him a bona fide star. And Mia herself has become a top-rate cellist, playing in some of the finest venues in the world. When their respective paths put them both in New York City at the same time, the result is a single night in which the two reunite - with wholly satisfying results. And don't miss Gayle's newest novel, *JUST ONE DAY* and the forthcoming companion, *JUST ONE YEAR*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First Sentence: Every morning I wake up and tell myself this: It's just one day, another twenty-four hour period to get yourself through. How I Acquired the Book: Borrowed from my town's library. The Review (with MINOR SPOILERS): I suppose I should start off this review by saying that *Where She Went* is very different from its predecessor, *If I Stay*. For the first half, *Where She Went* was very slow, dragged in the plot, and felt as if it were some new trashy teen lit. While I was reading the first half, I kept thinking, "Wow, *If I Stay* would be better if it had stayed alone." *Where She Went* certainly was not the book *If I Stay* was. In my opinion, although it didn't change mine, *If I Stay* had the potential to change people's lives. However, I can't say the same for *Where She Went*. While I thought the ending of *If I Stay* was a very nice and sweet ending, obviously, some others did not,

and that is, I suppose, what prompted Ms. Forman to write this book. *Where She Went* picks up three years after Mia's tragic car accident that killed her family, but not her. But this time, the story's told from Adam's point of view. In the three years that have passed, he has become a rock star. Mia, meanwhile, has reportedly become "the next Yo-Yo Ma." That was one major complaint I had with *Where She Went*: the whole unrealisticness of it all. (Hey, is that even a word?) Seriously, how, after three years, are they both supposed to be ridiculously famous? The improbability of that really staggers me, and detracted a lot from my reading experience. Even Adam describes it perfectly on page 228: "It's just: Kim. You. Me. We all came from this nowhere town in Oregon, and look at us. All three of us have gone to, well, extremes. You gotta admit, it's kind of weird."

Why I Read this Book: This book is a must read for anyone who's read *If I Stay*. In fact, if you've already read *If I Stay*, chances are you been anxiously awaiting the release for the sequel. There was a pretty big cliffhanger at the end of *If I Stay* and if you're like me, you need to know what happens next. And you get that closure in *Where She Went*. **What I Liked:** *If I Stay* was a great emotional and thought-provoking read. And because I was late jumping on the reading bandwagon (I didn't read that book until late last year), lucky for me I didn't have too long to wait for the answers that are found in *Where She Went*. *If I Stay* was first published in January of 2009, so some people have been waiting over 2 years for closure. Well wait no more, the time has finally come! Today is release day for *Where She Went*. I really liked that this book was told from Adam's POV (1st person narrative). *If I Stay* was completely Mia's story; her traumatic experience, her story, her flashbacks. In *Where She Went*, we finally get Adam's side of the story; from back when Mia was in a coma from the accident until now, 3 years later. It was good to see where and how Adam and Mia each ended up 3 years after her tragic accident. Adam pours his heart and emotions into his lyrics and shares them with the world. Every other chapter leads with a sampling of Adam's lyrics. Angst, torment and bitter emotions drip from his words. One of my favorite lines (that accurately describes Mia's present journey) is Gran's theory on why Mia was afraid of butterflies when she was younger: "She said it was because one day I was going to have to go through a metamorphosis like a caterpillar transforming into a butterfly and that scared me, so butterflies scared me."

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