

Editorial Review ★★★★★

A masterfully crafted coming-of-age story that delicately weaves together themes of loss, healing, young love, and self-discovery. In "Through Quick and Quinn," Erica Mimran Sherlock delivers a poignant dual narrative that follows two teenagers bound by parallel tragedies as they navigate their way through grief, identity, and purpose.

The story's true brilliance lies in its authentic portrayal of adolescent voices without sacrificing depth or emotional resonance. Quick and Quinn are fully realized characters whose pain, growth, and connection feel genuinely earned rather than manufactured. Their relationship evolves organically from tentative friendship to deep understanding to first love, all while avoiding the typical tropes of young adult romance.

Sherlock demonstrates remarkable skill in her treatment of heavy themes like childhood death, parental addiction, and human trafficking without letting the darkness overwhelm the narrative. Instead, these elements serve as catalysts for the protagonists' journey toward healing and self-actualization. The author's deft handling of the characters' shared interest in questioning accepted truths adds an intellectual dimension that elevates the story beyond typical teen fare.

The supporting cast is equally well-developed, particularly Mr. Erickson as the inspirational teacher and the parents whose own struggles and growth mirror those of their children. Through carefully crafted dialogue and intimate moments, Sherlock illustrates how trauma ripples through families and how healing often requires collective effort.

What truly sets this novel apart is its hopeful message about the power of authentic connection and the importance of facing difficult truths while maintaining compassion for oneself and others. The final act brings satisfying closure while avoiding overly neat resolutions, acknowledging that some wounds never fully heal but can lead to meaningful growth and purpose.

"Through Quick and Quinn" is a triumph of young adult literature that will resonate with readers of all ages who appreciate stories about the complexities of love, loss, and the courage to keep seeking truth even when it hurts.