

SYDNEY'S SONG's reviews

‘This is a beguiling story which offers a new slant to the genre of “chick-lit” in that its heroine Sydney steadfastly holds principles that put her out of step with her generation of youth, with their partying ways and easy sex.

The voice of the central character Sydney is good and reads authentically on the page. SYDNEY’S SONG is intelligent, touching, interesting and funny.

This well-told, humorous, moving and heart-warming story is based on the author’s own experiences but she has never deviated from the golden rule of fiction, and that is to tell her story well. Weaving the story around deftly drawn fictional characters, the author relives her own teenage traumas and her husband’s accident. She visits his sufferings and shows the world that living with disabilities does not prevent a person from attaining happiness.’—*IRINA DUNN, director of Australian Writers Network, Sydney*

‘SYDNEY’S SONG by Ia Uaro is an autobiographical novel of romance and struggle, a heart-warming tale of devotion and endurance... The early part of the story is the best part, featuring as it does Sydney's work on the city's 1-300-500 transit information telephone line. Long digressions to describe her experiences with callers give the book its primary source of intriguing detail. Watching Sydney's relationship with Pete in its early stages provides a good grounding for the drama that occupies the latter part of the book.

Sydney's Song demonstrates the way in which human beings can thrive under adversity using the power of their hearts and wills.’—*MATT POSNER, novelist, speaker, teacher, <http://schooloftheages.webs.com>, Queens, New York*

‘A fantastic love story grounded quite firmly in a suburban setting with real characters. An honest and emotional story of incredible passion and emotion, SYDNEY’S SONG captures you from the off. Its serious story of love and heartbreak is expertly juxtaposed against the humour of the call centre.’—*JACOB COATES, Jaffa Books, Brisbane*

‘...The twists and turns inside this book make the reading fairly easy. I found myself turning pages as fast as I could.

There is SO much more to this story, but I believe that you the reader should experience it for yourself. The morale is to listen to your heart and not always to those around you. Believe in something, anything, and then make it happen.

... The writing was superb, the story kept me interested and the ending touched me in ways most books don't. God works in mysterious ways sometimes, and this book proves it. I recommend this book to anyone, male or female, who is trying to find their way in this world.’—*PHIL NORK, author of real-life fiction, www.philipnork.com, Henderson, Nevada*

‘This book is riveting in its context and in the author's expressions of a set time in her life. It has the honest and open opinions of a young woman who is very keenly perceptive in all people and situations about her.

I have also learned many things as it pertains to the Australian way. Many pieces of language and terminologies are apparently privy to that corner of the world. I found them to still be comprehensible; sometimes light and airy, sometimes comical.

The ultimate thrust of the story; the love, honor and valor of a very young woman placed in a very difficult situation, was vividly seen throughout the story! I applaud the author for her compassion in sharing this story and conveying the important issues of brain injuries which could happen to anybody at any time. Great story!’—*NORMA FOWLER, author of *The False Prophet* and several other novels, Northern Kentucky*

‘Wow, what a beautiful story! Not just a look at life through the eyes of another, this story takes you on a journey as a girl travels from childhood to become a strong woman who can deal with whatever life throws at her. Tears fill your eyes as she struggles with disaster only to be replaced with pride as she triumphs over each obstacle. You will also find a good balance of laughter...’—*MERLENE M. ALLISON, author of *A Whisper of Secrets, Jasper, Georgia**

This book is a wonderful and compelling love story. Sydney and Pete brought me to tears thanks to my own related real experience. I highly recommend this to anyone who understood the power of love before they reached adulthood. The exploration of the dynamic of the broken family was deeply moving. I consider myself a happy bystander who had the honor to read about Pete and Sydney living their lives.'—*J. LENNI DORNER, author, what-are-they.com*

'It's amazing and emotional love story that pulls you in at the first page. If you can get past reading the first page you better make time in your day because you'll be hooked unable to put it down. SYDNEY'S SONG is written with such honest passion that's practically oozing off the pages. When Sydney isn't happy it makes you want to cheer her up, when her heart is racing you just want to check your own pulse, and when love is in the air you have to make sure to breathe.

It's one of those stories that touches more than just the surface of love, but travels deep within the structure testing it every so often and battles all odds to come out on top.

...I feel very blessed to have been given the opportunity to read SYDNEY'S SONG. Thank you for creating such a masterpiece and for reminding me of the miracles of love even in the hardest of times.'—*BRENDA FRANKLIN, author of fantasy fiction, Louisiana*

'I have to say when I first started reading this book; it started off a bit slow, interesting but slow. However, the interesting part kept me reading and reading until to my sadness I was at the end. I felt as though I was walking along beside Sydney on her adventures, misadventures, ups and downs. I truly began to feel for her and what she was going through.

... I loved the banter and the frequent uses of the various Australian dialects; it really made me feel as though I was right there in Australia! Oh and the ending; I LOVED the epilogue! A perfect ending to such a great read... OMG wonderful. Applaud, applaud!'—*REYNA HAWK, author of the Valentine/Petrilo Series, Alabama*

‘... Haunting.’—*MARY METCALFE, author of Winds of Change, Canada*

‘...I was too busy laughing and crying at every twist and turn of this story... This book is a love song; a song of songs to her beloved, to whom with amazing devotion she dedicates her life. What better quote for her transformation than the one at the opening: "You'll know who I am by the song that I sing." The soul and the voice are one.

It is hard, if not impossible, to fit this work into a literary genre, because the first half reads like an adorable girl-meets-boy story, only to take a sharp turn when... This is where the real fight, the fight for his survival begins; this is where you will get completely hooked with the Sydney's character.

The author of *Sydney's Song* is an artist as well... Inspired by real events in her life, this story is a tribute to her spirit, her voice, and her song.

Five stars.’ — *UVI POZNANSKY, Author of Apart From Love, California*

‘It is certainly a fact that many artists use their own knowledge and experience to focus on the meaning of life. However, and in spite of most writers' artistic skills, not all of them can touch people's hearts. *Sydney's Song* is one of these emotional stories that readers won't easily forget. Ia Uaro's beautiful, poetic words and splendid drawings accompany the avid reader on an emotional journey to the characters' minds and yearning desires. The author takes an in-depth look to the mental anguish caused by physical disabilities but, at the same time, gives a glimmer of hope that shines throughout the pages.’—*SADIE DUARTE, scriptwriter and author of Alas para Soñar, Spain*

‘A Song to Remember. I related to Sydney the moment I met her. She was a teen product of divorce... But Pete took her into his heart and under his wing. Their relationship was beyond love and adoration. Their capacity to know, to sense and to FEEL each other shone throughout the story. Sydney's tenacity during tragedy was remarkably well described and...I wanted to stand up and cheer for her. Throughout the story, I cried, I laughed and I swelled with pride when young Sydney grew from shy

teenager to a take-charge woman...I recommend "Sydney's Song" for young adults, parents, teachers, music lovers and anyone who does not believe that love exists beyond the physical plane. Five Stars!'—*BRIANNA LEE MCKENZIE, author of Enchanted Heart, Chesapeake Bay*

'Strong characters, evocative writing....'—*PETER FITZSIMONS, journalist, author of Mawson and other books, Sydney*

'A proper love story with true sentiment but not sentimental. Just lovely.'—*WENDY STRACHAN, author of the upcoming Out of Time, Aberdeenshire*

'Beautifully written in the form of a memoir, Sydney's Song is a delightful coming of age story. Balancing a full range of emotions, Ia Uaro brings Sydney and a full cast of characters to life while handling difficult situations and topics in a wonderfully delicate manner. Sydney's Song is a story that readers from young adults on up will enjoy.'—*CYPHER LX, author and alternative model, Pennsylvania*

'A wonderful book that will have you smiling, weeping—and then smiling widely through your tears. It is wonderfully written... a true joy to read.'—*DIANA WILDER, author of Pharaoh's Son and other Egyptian mysteries, Connecticut*

'So far I've read the first 5 chapters, but find this story quite interesting. Filled with emotion. The unexpected divorce of a young teenagers parents whom she thought were a perfect couple that were the backbone of the family, brought back memories that I too endured, but in a different way. Now, alone, on her own. The mother off living with her new lover, and her father so far away; is so sad. But this young teen I give much respect for having survived - to become the woman she did. Not many can accomplish as much as she. This story is one of victory one that is so moving it enraptures the readers heart to every bit of a beautiful example of a human being at every level. Her journey

into womanhood is uniquely profound. I love this story for all the accomplishments of an amazing woman who finds her way, by making good decisions. I highly recommend this book to everyone.’ –

EDWARD WILKES "E.B. WILKES", *New York*

‘Sometimes there is a story that needs to be heard, dreams untold that are wished to be felt and shared among souls of understanding. This freedom to be able to share stories of another's life brings us as human beings together in a more understanding luxury. For just a moment we can feel the author through the words that the let bleed from their pen as if they are only steps away from us. This is one of those stories and I hope you join me for just a moment looking more into the life of a determined woman of faith.’— *Bathsheba*, *USA*