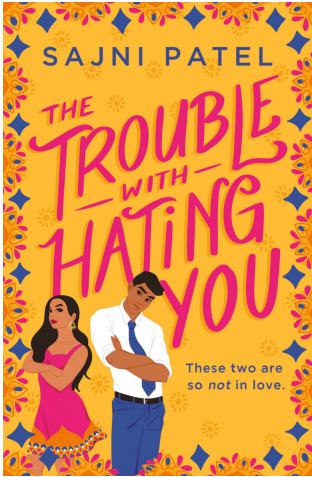


Prison Reading Groups

The Trouble With Hating You

By Sajni Patel



Liya Thakkar is a successful independent biochemical engineer. The moment she realises her parents' latest dinner party is a setup to meet a man they want to "arrange" for her to marry, she immediately leaves by the back door. To her unpleasant surprise that same man shows up at her office a week later as the new corporate lawyer hired to save her struggling company. Jay Shah is a gorgeous and charming lawyer, but he is also arrogant and infuriating. Obviously he's not too thrilled to see her either after that humiliating fiasco at her parents home.

There is a mutual hatred reflected in their meetings at work. However as their constant bickering slowly turns into late night chats, Liya starts to wonder if Jay might be the one man who accepts her and her painful past from which she has been running from. Jay too has a difficult past which he too prefers to not even think about.

So if they fall for each other; are they willing to share and expose their pasts? Or will Liya choose to keep running, while Jay ignores his haunting memories? Or could Jay prove to be Liya's modern day knight in shining armour?

The Author:

Sajni Patel was born in vibrant India and raised in the heart of Texas, USA. Her books draw on her personal experiences growing up in Texas, cultural expectations, and with a flair to create worlds that centre on strong Indian women.

She aims to show readers that there are different facets of her beautiful culture, both good and bad just like any other community. However, she also points out that readers should not view any of her books as the final tell-all, because South Asians are not homogenous and one story is merely one string of experiences in a tapestry of many threads.

Discussion Questions

1. Liya was good hearted but sometimes prickly and mean. Is this a mask she puts on because of the trauma she faced in her past?

2. While Liya had no family support, she had a strong circle of friends. Was this helpful for her?

3. What did you think of Jay showing stubborn loyalty to Liya, even when she behaved explosive and reckless towards him?

4. How did you feel about the way Liya's father treated both Liya and Liya's mother?

5. What was your view of the type of support Jay's mother gave both Jay and Liya?

6. This story starts with turbulence between Liya and Jay. Did you like how the story finally ended?

Thank you to our volunteer Neville for choosing this title and creating the resource.

