

Rules of Attraction (A Perfect Chemistry Novel)

By Simone Elkeles



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When Carlos Fuentes returns to America after living in Mexico for the past year, he doesn't want any part of the life his older brother, Alex, has laid out for him in Colorado. When he meets Kiara Westford, a good girl totally unlike any of the girls he's usually drawn to, Carlos assumes Kiara thinks she's too good for him. But will he put his pride aside when he realizes that being with Kiara might finally allow him to be his true self?



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 10 Up—In this sequel to *Perfect Chemistry* (Walker, 2009), Elkeles once again delivers a steamy page-turner bound to make teens swoon. After getting involved with a dangerous gang in Mexico, Carlos Fuentes is sent to live in Colorado with his older brother, Alex. Unwilling to straighten up and abide by Alex's rules, he soon gets into trouble when he is framed for narcotics possession by a drug lord with powerful gang ties. Carlos avoids expulsion from high school by living with Alex's former instructor, Professor Westford, and his family, and attending an after-school program for at-risk teens. Romance ensues when tough-talking, authority-flouting Carlos finds himself inexplicably drawn to Kiara, the professor's studious, outdoorsy, and vintage-car-loving daughter. Unfortunately, love is complicated, because while Carlos wants to be with Kiara, he is also struggling to extricate himself from the grasp of the drug lord who framed him. After he is seriously beaten up, he, Alex, and Professor Westford concoct a plan to bring the drug lord to justice. As in *Perfect Chemistry*, the brothers' dialogue is infused with plenty of Spanish, but it's clear in context. The ending is somewhat contrived and rushed, and minor characters are not as well developed. However, the passion between Carlos and Kiara, who tell their story in alternating narratives, is compelling enough to engage teens, especially those who were taken with Alex and Brittany's romance in the previous book.—Lalitha Nataraj, Chula Vista Public Library, CA (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Review

"Elkeles once again delivers a steamy page-turner bound to make teens swoon." ?School Library Journal on Rules of Attraction

"Engaging characters, two of whom share a love that cannot be denied, along with more than a few humorous moments." ?VOYA on Rules of Attraction

"Elkeles pens plenty of tasteful, hot scenes . . . that keep the pages turning." ?Kirkus Reviews on Perfect Chemistry

"Smoldering doesn't quite do justice to the romantic banter." ?School Library Journal on Perfect Chemistry

"Teens with a taste for romance will eat this up like ice cream on a hot day." ?Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books on Perfect Chemistry

"Fans of the series and other females will gobble up this exciting, suspenseful novel." ?VOYA on Chain Reaction

About the Author

Simone Elkeles is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of *Better Than Perfect*, the Perfect Chemistry series, Leaving Paradise series, and How to Ruin series. All three books in the Perfect Chemistry series have been YALSA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Readers, and the Illinois Association of Teachers of English named Simone 2008 Author of the Year. Simone's funny way of looking at the world shines through in novels that are bursting with sarcastic wit, edgy characters, and exhilarating drama.

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Rudy Lapan:

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