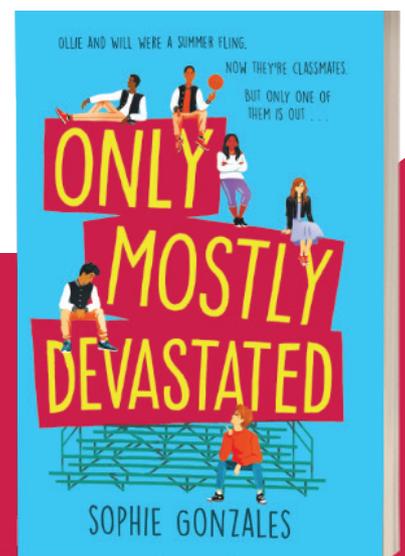


ONLY MOSTLY DEVASTATED

SOPHIE GONZALES

1. Were you a fan of the original *Grease* movie or musical before you read *Only Mostly Devastated*? How do you think the ways the author has changed the story have affected its themes?
2. At the beginning, Ollie says that ‘Disney had been lying to [him] . . . about Happily Ever Afters.’ Do you think ‘happy every afters’ are possible, or are they just for fairytales?
3. When Lara says she’s afraid she ‘betrayed queer women’ by kissing Renee on a dare, how did you respond? Do you think her personal choices have any larger consequences? What about Ollie reassuring her that ‘it’s not always black and white for [queer kids]’?
4. After Lara comes out, Matt tells Ollie he’d assumed Lara was ‘a lesbian now,’ even though she’s bisexual. What do you think of Matt’s response?
5. Will treats Ollie badly several times in an effort to minimize their history and relationship in public, but Ollie also doesn’t have much patience for Will’s doubts or discomfort that keep him in the closet. Could you see one of their perspectives more strongly than the other? Who did you identify with more?
6. We only ever get to see Ollie’s perspective; how do you think the story would have been different if we’d seen Will’s side? Or Lara’s?
7. Ollie, each of his parents, his uncle, and his young cousins all deal with their grief in different ways. Did any of their responses resonate with you particularly?
8. At the beginning, Ollie’s mom stresses the importance of making sacrifices for the people we love. How did Ollie’s actions towards various loved ones throughout the book align with this value? Do you agree that it’s important to make sacrifices for the people we love? Why or why not?



AN UTTERLY JOYFUL
QUEER REIMAGINING OF *GREASE*