

Book Review: Sam's Letters to Jennifer by James Patterson

By Rachel Loveday

Everyone has a story to tell. Some choose to tell it by voice recordings or interviews; some choose to tell it by writing memoirs or journals.

And some to choose to their tell story by writing letters.

Similar to *Suzanne's Diary for Nicholas*; This novel follows the same narrative path as it is also a story of love, loss, love lost, the fragility of life and second chances with mystery constantly present.

After her beloved grandmother is hospitalised after taking a terrible fall, Jennifer decides to move into Sam's house where she spent many enjoyable summers and is filled with countless happy and loving memories, in order to be nearby her whilst she slowly recovers.

On arrival, she discovers a series of letters; 170 in total addressed to her, written by Sam, instructing her to read only a few at a time. Sam has decided to tell her story to Jennifer and share the secrets she has never shared with anyone else.

Sam's story is a love story, her love story and the man co-starring with her in this love story is *not* Jennifer's grandfather. Sam reveals that she never really loved her husband but that she truly fell in love with a mystery man that the society of her time dictated that she couldn't be with, and she also got a second chance at love, a second chance that she never thought she would receive. Although Jennifer is shocked to discover that the world that she has always known was never as it seemed, she is intrigued to uncover the identity of this mystery man and hopes for a "happily ever after" to their story.

But what Jennifer never expected is to get her own second chance at love. Whilst mourning the tragic loss of her husband and unborn baby, a loss that she blames herself for, she is reunited with a childhood friend; Brendan Keller and a romance quickly develops between them, but Brendan has his own secret that may force Jennifer to relive a loss that she has been trying to avoid.

I personally love reading novels where the characters lives and multiple plots interconnect, and where mystery and suspense is written so well that it motivates me to keep reading. Both Sam's and Jennifer's stories of second-chance-love fills me with hope that there is love out there, not only for myself but for everyone else in this world, whether it be a first or second love.

Therefore that is why I loved reading this novel and I will never tire of it.