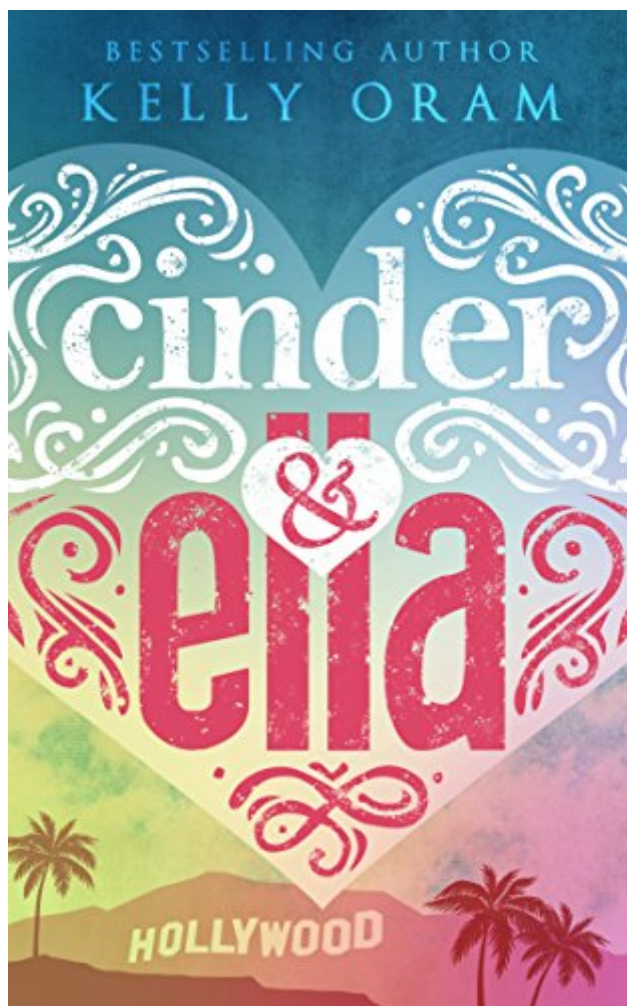


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Cinder & Ella (Cinder & Ella #1)



Synopsis

What would you do if your anonymous Internet best friend turned out to be Hollywood's hottest celebrity? Cinder458: Your blogiversary is coming up, right? EllaTheRealHero: Do all those Hollywood friends of yours know you use words like blogiversary? Cinder458: Of course not. I need your address. Got you a blogiversary present. Cinder got me a gift? My heart flipped. Not that I was in love with my Internet best friend or anything. That would be utterly ridiculous. The boy was cocky and stubborn and argued with everything I said just to be infuriating. He also had lots of money, dated models—which meant he had to be hot—and was a closet book nerd. Funny, rich, hot, confident, book lover. Definitely not my type. Nope. Not at all. It's been almost a year since eighteen-year-old Ella Rodriguez was in a car accident that left her crippled, scarred, and without a mother. After a very difficult recovery, she's been uprooted across the country and forced into the custody of a father that abandoned her when she was a young child. If Ella wants to escape her father's home and her awful new stepfamily, she must convince her doctors that she's capable, both physically and emotionally, of living on her own. The problem is, she's not ready yet. The only way she can think of to start healing is by reconnecting with the one person left in the world who's ever meant anything to her—her anonymous Internet best friend, Cinder. Hollywood sensation Brian Oliver has a reputation for being trouble. There's major buzz around his performance in his upcoming film *The Druid Prince*, but his management team says he won't make the transition from teen heartthrob to serious A-list actor unless he can prove he's left his wild days behind and become a mature adult. In order to douse the flames on Brian's bad-boy reputation, his management stages a fake engagement for him to his co-star Kaylee. Brian isn't thrilled with the arrangement—or his fake fiancée—but decides he'll suffer through it if it means he'll get an Oscar nomination. Then a surprise email from an old Internet friend changes everything. With a heartwarming online celebrity romance reminiscent of Jennifer E. Smith's *This Is What Happy Looks Like*, bestselling young adult author Kelly Oram has struck gold with her new adult contemporary retelling of the timeless fairytale classic *Cinderella*. "A story that has it all: tears, laughs, sparks and a drop-dead swoonworthy hero. Give it a while and DreamWorks will pick up this story for a movie adaption, no doubt." Anna Katmore, Author of *Play With Me & Neverland* "Both funny and heart-wrenching, Cinder and Ella will give you all the feels. It's the best twist on the Cinderella tale I have come across. I am not just a fan of Kelly Oram. I am an addict." Cassie Mae, author of *Switched & How To Hook A Bookworm* "Cinder & Ella is a beautiful modern-day fairytale with a great cast of characters that made me laugh and swoon. It had me staying up late at night to read just one more chapter, and at the end, I was left with a big grin on my face." Cindi

Madsen, USA Today Bestselling Author of Falling For Her Fianc  & Cinderella Screwed Me Over

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Customer Reviews

So many feels! I literally had no intentions on reading Cinder & Ella, the cover kind of threw me off I didn't really care for it, and I know shame on me for judging a book by its cover BUT give me some credit I did eventually buy it thanks to not being able to escape the book ... I swear for a month after I came across Cinder & Ella I kept seeing it everywhere so I bought it and loved it so very much. I was laughing and smiling and there were tears (I'm one of those weird people that just doesn't cry over books and this book was the first one to ever bring that out of me) I was just a bag full of emotions while reading it and even now I'm having issues putting coherent thoughts together. Ella has been through hell and we are thrown right into it. Ella and her mother get in a car accident, one that ends up killing her mom and disabling Ella along with most of her body suffering from burns from the accident. I felt for her so much, I was so angry for her and sad and happy, everything she felt, I felt. There is a lot of pretty heavy topics touched in the book such as bullying, depression, divorce, death and much more. Cinder Brian this guy! He was just an all around awesome best

friend to Ella. Totally swoon worthy. He is famous, a heartthrob but he has his own problems, he isn't in control of his own life and thanks to the dual point of view it was easy to connect with him as well. Oh and the guy reads! Yes he met Ella on her book and movie review blog so believe me when I say he easy to fall in love with. Then there was her family, her new family. After her mom passed away she had to move in with her dad who abandoned her when she was just a little girl. Believe me when I say you will hate him for majority of the book, there is so much I want to say but I think it will be spoilerish and remove the shock factor. There is also the "evil" step sisters, although one eventually came around while the other was truly a nasty piece of work. As for the step-mom, you can tell she had good intentions she was just rather clueless on how to go about it. Even though things were pretty bad in the beginning I like how it all worked out in the end for everyone involved in that household. Overall Cinder & Ella is a perfect in-between book. It's a fast paced read, it dug deep while still being a fun read with all the stuff that just makes you feel good while reading an incredibly amazing book.

Loved this!! I was not planning on reading this book yet and there are several other books I really should have read first. I picked up Cinder and Ella to just read the first chapter and didn't put it down! I read the entire thing in one sitting. This really shouldn't have surprised me because I love Kelly Oram! Honestly there are just a few authors that write in a way that sucks me in and won't let me come up for air until I've finished their book. Kelly is one of those writers. I'm a sucker for Cinderella retellings so this was destined to be a favorite of mine. What teenage girl hasn't dreamed of having someone famous fall for her and sweep her off her feet. We all know that is not reality but it is sure fun to dream and escape into a fun story like one. Underlying the fairy tale there were beautiful messages about love and acceptance. This book gave me the feels. I had tears and smiled and laughed out loud. It was a seriously fun escape from the housework that I had intended to do the day I read this. There is some content in this one. Nothing as over the top as her book A is for Abstinence contained. I did let my 14 year old read this one but warned her about a few things before she started it and she too loved it. On a random note I actually googled The Druid Prince a couple chapters into this story because I thought it was a real book and I wanted to read it. Utterly disappointed it isn't a real story | maybe Kelly will write it (hint, hint). Rating: 5 Stars I loved it. Content: some language (I let my teenager read it and she pointed out that there was more than I realized), innuendo and talk of sex but nothing graphic or too over the top. Source: Review copy

When you look at the cover for this book what do you think? For me I thought it was going to be a fun, light, sweet story. Oh how wrong I was! To have this be the first book I read of the new year is not good book luck. I am so disappointed with the story and as much as I hate to write reviews like this, I'll try and just stick to the facts. Here are my pros & cons:

Pros: Ella; I really enjoyed her characters and my heart absolutely broke for this girl. Her life has been awful and even though she was pretty bitter throughout the whole book I didn't blame her one bit. I admired her bravery and strength. She was my type of girl (bookworm, funny) and I would have been proud to be her friend. Vivian & Rob; These were two of my favorite characters of the book. They were the best of friends to Ella and I was beyond happy she had them in her corner. A modern re-telling of a classic; I love when authors take classics and put their own spin to it. This version may not be my favorite but I applaud the author for taking a chance and writing it. Sadly that's pretty much it for the pros but without them I wouldn't have been able to even finish the book. Now to the hard part...

Cons: Ella's Dad; I HATED this man with every fiber of my being. What an awful human being and sorry but he had no redeeming qualities. His "apologies" were too little too late for me and his behavior towards his daughter was horrendous. He made this book so difficult to read and I was angry 90% of the time because of him. His excuses for abandoning her were lame and just showed you what type of man he was. Anastasia; Now I don't know if I hated her as much as the Dad but she came pretty close. She was a spoiled brat who made Ella's life (which was hard enough) a living hell. Her behavior was disgusting and how everyone still babied her made me sick. And once she saw the light and tried to make amends?! It was pathetic to say the least. You can't write such an evil character and then let them get off the hook so easily. This left a bad taste in my mouth. Tragedy after tragedy; This book for me was just depressing. Every chapter something bad happens to the heroine and she's upset majority of the time. Give the poor girl a break already!! I know kids can be mean and I know this is fiction but the cruelty in this seemed excessive and over the top. I found it hard to read so many times and I was in constant worry my iPad wouldn't survive. I'm all for character struggle to build them into a stronger person but this just seemed for shock value and after a while I couldn't take it anymore.

Ending; so after ALL the trials Ella goes through, all the heartache I expected this epic ending for her. I mean come on she deserves it and it just wasn't there. It was like she was given the consolation prize just to shut her up and make her go away. I wanted more and I think after what the reader has endured deserved that as well. I don't like bashing books and I'm sorry if this review seems harsh but when you have a cover like the one it has and you think you're getting a lighthearted read and end up needing a drink after finishing, it feels like

you've been duped. My suggestion would be to change it and let everyone know what they're getting into. I know the story of Cinderella isn't always the happiest but this one was down right sad. You're probably wondering why I haven't brought up the prince Cinder. While he was a sweet guy he just didn't do anything for me and even though they had a great connection as friends, I didn't feel a love connection. Their story took too long to progress and when it finally did I was over it. I honestly wanted Ella with someone else (you know who). He seemed to really care for her and in my opinion a better match. So that's my final verdict on Cinder & Ella. If you loved this one (which I seem to be the minority) I am happy you did. Not every book will be loved by all and that's what is so great about reading. 2.5 Stars!

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