

By Kaitlin Carlson



Book Review: *Born Confused*

Have you ever had the feeling that you were losing control of your life and have no chance of regaining the reins you once had a tight grip on? Have you ever thought that you were born confused?

American-born Dimple Lala felt exactly like that. Dimple isn't your average heroine; she is battling low self-esteem, the fact that she is slightly overweight, and having "perfect" Gwyn as her best friend. As if dealing with the awkward teenage years weren't enough, try having parents that strongly believe in the customs and traditions of their native land of India.

One of the traditions that Dimple's family firmly believes in is the fact that she should have an arranged marriage, though Dimple is only a senior in high school. Dimple can only hope that her parents will never be able to find a "suitable boy" by the time she is to graduate, but that quickly changes after Dimple's mother meets with a college friend who happens to have a boy just a few years older than Dimple.

When Dimple first met Karsh, the "suitable boy," she came to the quick conclusion that he is nothing but a drab, boring boy and wishes to wash her hands of him. As time passes, Dimple begins to see more of Karsh than what she first judged him as. Then right on the dot, Gwyn squeezes her way in and tries to claim the victory of Karsh's affection, making Dimple feel used and as if she had failed her own heart.

This is a story of self discovery, the message that things do break but there is always a possibility that they can be mended. Even if you only make the attempt you will have learned something from the experience of trying to fix life and the components it's made of. That no matter how terrifying it maybe to dive into the dark waters of the unknown, you'll benefit from the exposure to reality. The reality that there is no ideal person; the only ideal person is the one you create as your own, because everyone's expectation is always different. Make sure the mold fits you, not that you fit the mold.