

(Free and download) Chasing Windmills

## Chasing Windmills

Von Catherine Ryan Hyde

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**Von Catherine Ryan Hyde : Chasing Windmills** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chasing Windmills:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Courtesy of Teens Read TooVon TeensReadTooGold Star Award Winner!Seventeen-year-old Sebastian sneaks out at night. His domineering father home-schools him, makes decisions for him, and keeps an eye on him every minute of every day. Sebastian knows that only the nights are his after his father takes his sleeping pill.Maria is a young mother of two,

living with an abusive boyfriend. She is riding the subway because she is too afraid to admit to Carl that she has lost her job. She knows it can't go on forever, but once she meets Sebastian it becomes impossible to imagine life without him. They met late one night on the subway. They exchanged glances and shy smiles, and finally they began to talk. Once Sebastian begins to see the real world, he begins to question how his father has raised him. His only friend, an old woman living in a neighboring apartment, gives him the love his father never shows. With her encouragement, he makes a plan to escape from his father and take Maria with him. He contacts the maternal grandmother he barely remembers and learns his father has not just sheltered him, but also lied to him. His mother didn't die. She is alive and well in the Mojave Desert where he is welcome anytime. Author Catherine Ryan Hyde tells the story of Sebastian and Maria in alternating chapters. The fear and pain of their loveless lives screams from the pages. I found myself feeling the absence of one when the chapter I was reading focused on the other. Even though CHASING WINDMILLS somewhat parallels several famous love stories of the past, it has its own unique voice and interpretation. It will most certainly touch your heart. Reviewed by: Sally Kruger, aka "Readingjunkie"

**Kurzbeschreibung** Sebastian, at 17, has never eaten pizza, never been to school, never even hung out with other kids. He rides the subway at night to escape his father's strict, possessive parenting. Maria, 22 and mother to two young children, has just lost her job. Afraid to confess to her violent boyfriend, Maria resorts to riding the subway when he thinks she's at work. And then one night, on an empty train, Sebastian and Maria make eye contact . . . From Publishers Weekly In the simple and captivating latest from Pay It Forward author Hyde, a chance encounter proves life-changing for two lonely New York City subway riders. Four months shy of 18, Sebastian Mundt has been held a virtual prisoner by his father since his mother died: his father home-schools him and doesn't let him have outside relationships. One night, with his father heavily sedated by his sleeping pill, Sebastian sneaks out to ride the subway and locks eyes with Maria Arquette, a young mother who is caught in an abusive marriage. The two share an instant connection and take to meeting on the subway almost nightly and tentatively planning a future in the California desert town that Sebastian remembers from childhood, where thousands of windmills stretch out across the horizon. Hyde gracefully alternates between Sebastian's and Maria's perspectives with gentle nods to this New York love story's precursors (Maria obsessively watches West Side Story). It is their voices at once utterly credible and heartbreakingly naive that make the book, and while this is being billed as an adult novel, its closest stylistic relative is S.E. Hinton's YA classic *The Outsiders*. (Mar.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. **Pressestimmen** Praise for *Chasing Windmills* A sweet tale openly modeled on *West Side Story* a gentle tale centering how how people come to grip with their pasts. Kirkus s Simple and captivating. It is [Sebastian's and Maria's] voices at once utterly credible and heartbreakingly naive that make the book, and while this is being billed as an adult novel, its closest stylistic relative is S.E. Hinton's YA classic *The Outsiders*. Publishers Weekly Hyde writes evocatively of the visceral nature of first love. Her characters are well developed, and she describes settings economically but effectively. The ending is realistic and satisfying. Short chapters make for a page-turning read and the distinct voices are sweet, soul-baring, and honest. School Library Journal Praise for *Love in the Present Tense* If you love *Pay It Forward*, *The Notebook*, and *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, this novel will envelop you. USA TODAY "Fresh and distinct . . . Hyde excels in sentimental, utopian storytelling that transcends time, place and human weakness." Publishers Weekly A magnificent storyteller. Denver Post