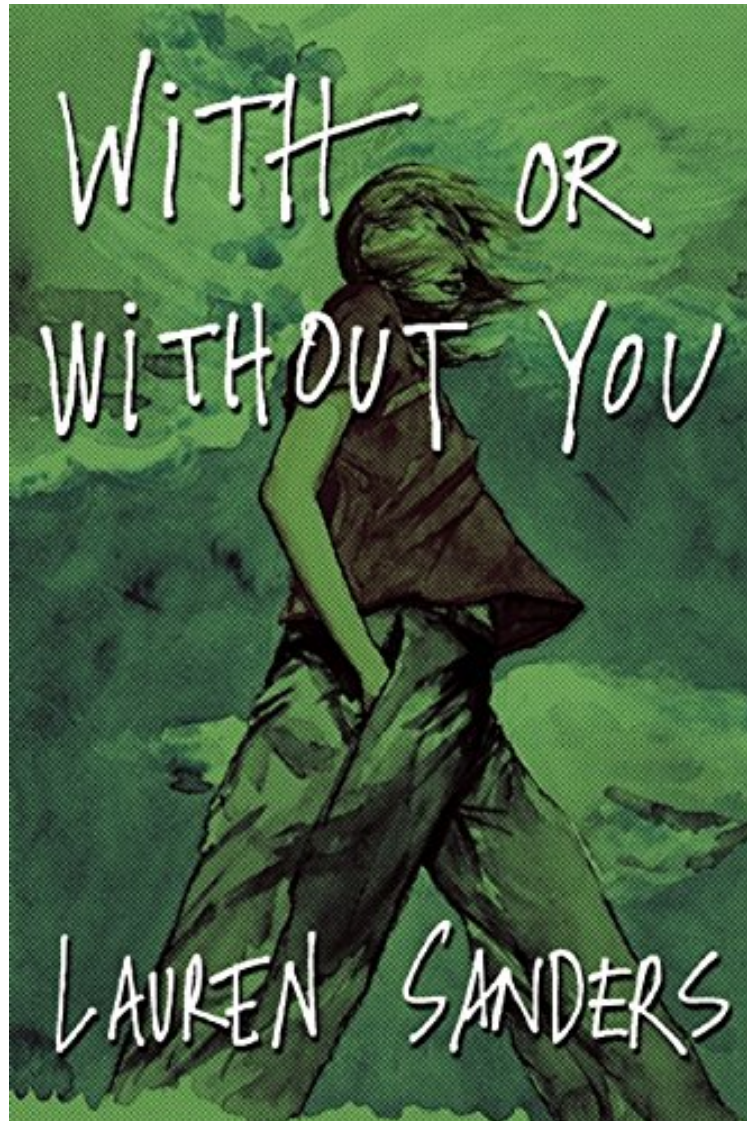


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With or Without You

Lauren Sanders

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Lauren Sanders : With or Without You before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised With or Without You:

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A really good bookBy J.M. SnyderThis story really blew me away. I've always been curious about people who feel compelled to kill celebrities, particularly those they claim to love. When I began the book, I never expected to feel sympathetic toward Lillian, but I found myself caught up in the whirlwind of her life. The writing is vivid and rich, and the characters very real. I particularly liked the juxtaposition between Lillian's side of the story and Brooke's mother's side. Though Lillian never met Brooke, she fell in love with

the superstar in her magazines and on her television much the same way millions of teenaged girls do. While the premise sounds fantastical, the events of the novel play out in such a way as to make perfect sense. I was left with an immense feeling of sadness for Lillian. The fangirl in me could imagine playing her role all too well.

In Sanders's hands, what is usually cliché or gratuitous is hot; Amy Ray of the Indigo Girls Award-winning novelist Lauren Sanders offers a story about the isolation and loneliness of adolescence and the neglect of the familial, cultural, and political institutions that are supposed to provide some sort of support system. Lauren Sanders is a novelist and journalist who lives in New York City. Her highly acclaimed debut novel, *Kamikaze Lust* (Akashic, 2000), won a 2001 Lambda Literary Award. Sanders's writing has appeared in many publications including the *American Book Review*, *Poets Writers*, and *Time Out New York*.