

Title: Payal Mehta's Romance Revenge Plot Author: Preeti Chhibber Imprint: Kokila Books Publisher: Penguin Young Readers On sale date: September 24, 2024 ISBN: 9780593461884 and 9780593461891 Format: Hardcover and Paperback Age Range*: 12 and up Grade Range: Gr 7 up

BOOK RESUME: PAYAL MEHTA'S ROMANCE REVENGE PLOT

BOOK SYNOPSIS

This laugh-out-loud debut romance introduces perfectly imperfect Payal Mehta, whose plan to get her longtime crush to finally notice her is destined for success, but only if she ignores her budding feelings for her archnemesis...

Payal Mehta has had a crush on popular, athletic, all-around perfect Jonathan Slate ever since he smiled at her in freshman–year Spanish class. At a party during spring break of her junior year, Payal finally works up the courage to ask Jon to hang out. However, her romantic plans are derailed when he vomits on her Keds. Twice. But when Jon offers to take her out to lunch as an apology, Payal is convinced this is the start of their love story.

Over chalupas and burritos at Taco Bell, Payal's best jokes are landing as planned. Jon is basically choking on his Coke—and then it happens. "Do you have a boyfriend?" Payal is (finally) about to get the guy. And then he tries to set her up with his Indian friend. Payal's best friends, Neil Patel and Divya Bhatt, are just as mad about the microagression as Payal is, but they think she's a little too hung up on him.

Determined to teach Jon a lesson by making him fall for her, Payal ropes in her archnemesis, Philip Kim, to help. It's the perfect plan. Minus Philip's snarky, annoying quips and lack of faith in its success. But as Payal lies to the people she loves, hides the too-Indian parts of herself in front of her crush, and learns that *maybe* Philip isn't the worst, she starts to wonder if what she's been looking for has been scowling at her all along...

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"A cute romance that explores valuable themes around self-esteem." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Perfect for fans of *Never Have I Ever* and *Ten Things I Hate About You*, this novel's witty banter and endearing side characters create a loving ode to teen rom-coms. —*Booklist*

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- Educator Guide
- <u>TeachingBooks.net resources</u>
- Nerd Daily Q&A with Author

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