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## 'TRADING GUYS' NOVEL IS SLIGHTLY OUT OF TUNE

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BY GILLAN LUDLOW

Debra Garfinkle writes a witty but oh-so-true teen story about relationships and alcohol abuse in "The Band: Trading Guys."

Tracie, Mark and Sienna are all best friends and band mates. Tracie is dating the serious, smart and gorgeous Carter, while Mark and Sienna have been dating each other for the past year. But when the exotic and daring Lily shows up and becomes the band's new lead singer, everything changes.

One night, after the band, Amber Road, nails a spot at the coolest club in town, everybody goes to the beach. Lily's brother Aaron brings alcohol to the beach with the intention of hooking up with Tracie. Mark, Sienna, Lily and Aaron are seasoned drinkers. But, Carter and Tracie have never had a drink before.

Tracie decides to have some beer. Things get out of hand, and Lily comes up with the idea to trade boyfriends. Let's just say that things spiral down from there.

Some points in the book seemed to be exaggerated, but overall, the book was good. One problem was that switching boyfriends really isn't something that would happen in reality. Or would it?

No one under 15 years old should read this because of drugs and sex references.

Gillan Ludlow is a junior at Stafford High School.

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