   Thematic Essay

                                 This Lullaby: The Power of Love

          Love makes a difference in a person because when you care about someone you are willing to do anything for them even make changes. In Sarah Dessen’s novel This Lullaby, Remy is a girl who doesn’t believe in true love and the meaning of forever. But when she meets Dexter everything changes. Love changed Remy to someone that she always avoid being. As Remy spent more time with Dexter she changed and she saw that she can't always be a heartless person.

          Remy seems like a girl who shields herself from love. Remy is afraid of getting hurt so she avoids falling in love with anyone. When Dexter comes into Remy’s life he seems to change everything. Dexter is different from the other guys that Remy has dated. There's a reason why he's different from the rest of the guys she's dated. Remy has set herself with rules so she doesn't get hurt. "Remy's got a whole set of rules. Never get too serious. Never let him break your heart. And never, ever date a musician."  But Remy already broke one of her rules when she started dating Dexter. Dexter is a musician that is in a band. Remy followed those rules all of her life. But everything changed when she met Dexter.

        Remy avoided being hurt by anyone, especially guys. But her rules keep her away from seeing if maybe one of her relationships might work out. Remy doesn’t believe that she could ever stay with Dexter or anyone forever. **“**“No, it’s okay. My mother did always say I’d make a lousy husband so it’s good to get a second opinion. Plus, I like knowing you don’t see us going anywhere. Takes the guesswork out of it”....”What did you expect? That we’d stay together forever?”**”** (Pg.223). All of Remy’s rules all seem to be things that Remy’s mom has done and seem to have gone wrong. They all seem to be mistakes that her mom has made and seem to have made an impact on her.

           Remy’s no musician rule relates to the fact that Remy’s dad was a musician who left her mom. Then there’s the rule about never letting him break your heart. It relates to how after Remy’s dad left her mom was heart broken. Finally, never get too serious meaning that she shouldn’t go as far as getting married. Seeing as how her mom is always getting married to anyone she has a liking to. Remy doesn’t want to be like her mom. Remy is afraid of commitment and what it usually leads to. Remy doesn’t want to admit that she’s afraid of how commitments are. **“** “I’ve seen what commitment leads to, and it isn’t pretty. Going in is the easy part. It’s the ending that suck”**”** (pg. 225). But Remy should try facing her fears and seeing what a relationship with no commitments is like then what a relationship with commitments is like. Remy then get’s to see two sides of the picture.