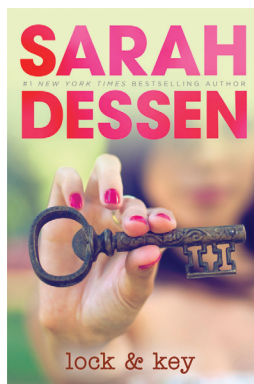
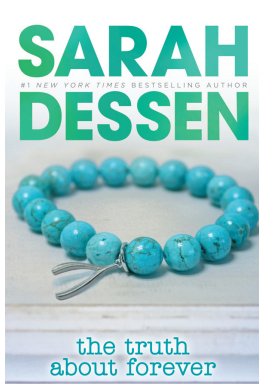
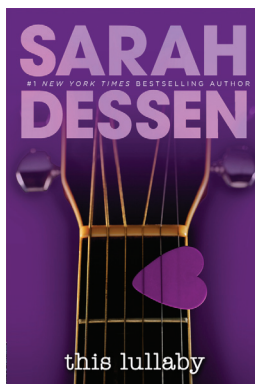


**SPEND YOUR SUMMER WITH SARAH**





## Dear Book Club Coordinator:

Here at Penguin Young Readers Group we are calling Summer 2013 **The Summer of Sarah**. The beloved bestseller Sarah Dessen will be publishing her 11th book this summer, which takes place in one of her fans' favorite settings, the fictional beach town of Colby. Dessen's latest novel, *The Moon and More*, will be hitting the shelves this June, and she will be touring in schools and bookstores all across the country to connect with her fans new and old.

In anticipation of a local visit, or in lieu of meeting the author in person, we have assembled your **Summer of Sarah book club kit** to welcome readers in your community into your local book club meetings all summer long. With Penguin's Summer of Sarah book club kit, you can hold discussions about specific Dessen titles or more thematic sessions on a variety of topics, such as relationships, moving away, loss and letting go, and change (which everyone can relate to).

Since the summer is time for teens to let go of the worries and stress of the school year, this book club kit also includes fun quizzes, a recipe from Sarah's favorite summer treats, and playlists handpicked by Sarah herself. Tailor your book club in whatever format best fits your participants, and have a fun-filled summer... with Sarah!

### Tips for your event:

- ♥ Try to have the event in a quiet area. The easier it is to hear one another, the better!
- ♥ Outline basic etiquette. Remind everyone to be polite and nice. No one should feel uncomfortable in a book discussion.
- ♥ Let it be known that it is okay to disagree. It's always more interesting to share and hear different points of view.
- ♥ Use icebreakers to get attendees acquainted with one another. Readers might be coming from different places and might not know one another. What better way to get them past their initial shyness than finding out interesting bits of information about each person?

### TRY USING THESE ICEBREAKERS

Which Sarah Dessen character would you go out to dinner with if you had the chance?  
Which Sarah Dessen character are you most like?

- ♥ Provide snacks for the event. Recipes from Sarah included!
- ♥ Play a game. While the focus should be on discussing the book(s), switching attention over to a game will prevent the conversation from dropping off and provide for a different kind of fun. Whether it be trivia questions or a board game, it's a good way to close a book discussion.

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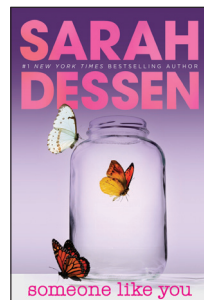
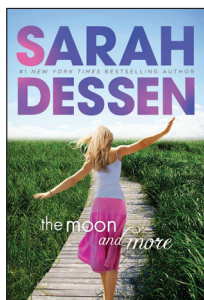
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## Magic Cookie Bars

“I can’t take credit for this recipe. It’s all over the Internet and used to be on the back of Eagle Brand Condensed Milk cans. But my mom used to make these, and lately I went through a period where I got into doing it as well. Then I got a bit out of control, eating them for breakfast. So you’ve been warned. It’s a slippery slope!”

1 stick margarine  
1.5 graham cracker crumbs  
1 small bag chocolate chips  
14 oz. can condensed milk  
1 c. coconut  
2 small bags chopped pecans

- Preheat oven to 350°. Melt margarine over medium heat in a saucepan. Mix in the graham cracker crumbs and stir until moist.
- Grease bottom of a 9x9 pan, then pat crumb mixture into the bottom of it, using a spatula to pack it down. Cook in oven 5 minutes. Remove, then spread chocolate chips over bottom layer, followed by nuts and coconut. Pour condensed milk over the top (I use less than the whole can, but that’s my preference).
- Bake 30 minutes, then remove and let set before chilling in fridge 1-2 hours. Enjoy!



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# *The Moon and More* Playlist

## Straight from Sarah's iPod™!

1. **“Emaline,” Ben Folds Five.** When I start having ideas for a book, the name of the narrator comes first. Sometimes, it's instantly perfect, but others I have to figure out the spelling and how I think it would be pronounced. I wasn't sure how I wanted to spell Emaline's name until I found this song by Ben Folds Five. And I just knew.
2. **“Free Girl Now,” Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers.** A lot of this book is about breaking free of expectations and other things that might limit what you can, and do, end up accomplishing in this life. Plus this is a great kiss-off song, and you can never have enough of those.
3. **“Walk,” Foo Fighters.** Another great song about starting over and making changes. Plus, no one rocks like the Foo Fighters.
4. **“Shake It Out,” Florence + the Machine.** I started writing *The Moon and More* in the winter of 2011, then had to set it aside to go on tour to promote *What Happened to Goodbye*. Traveling and meeting my readers is always so fun, but it's hard to be away from my family, and there were certain times I was just exhausted and homesick. This song was my therapy for MONTHS when those feelings hit, and I still put it on when I need to remember “it's always darkest before the dawn.” It always does the trick.
5. **“The Church of Everybody Else,” Ben Lee.** I love all things Ben Lee, but the title of this song is what really got me. Like Emaline, I've spent too much time worrying about what other people think of me and my choices, but it's also scary to decide not to worry about other people's opinions, because then no one is accountable but you. It's about a balance between the two, and like Emaline, I'm still trying to find it.
6. **“Leaving New York,” R.E.M.** A great song about coming to realizations about what a person can do for you, as well as finally getting the things they just won't be capable of, no matter how much you wish things were different.
7. **“Daughter,” Loudon Wainwright III.** Emaline talks a lot in this book about the difference, in her mind, between her father and her dad. This song sums up parenthood to me, especially that sense of wonder I still feel at times about my own little girl: “That's my daughter in the water/Who'd have ever thought her?”
8. **“Silver, Blue & Gold,” Bad Company.** I listened to so much classic rock when I was in high school: it was the soundtrack to my entire experience. I was driving one day and this song came on. I hadn't heard it in years, and it just brought back SO much, especially my senior year, when I went through a really brutal breakup (read: I got dumped). My heart was just broken and hearing this song after all those years—“Don't forsake me, cause I love you”—brought back all that pain in one big wave. I was dealing with some sad stuff in Emaline's story, as well, and it just made me get it that much more. Music has that kind of power. Thank goodness.
9. **“Dreaming,” Blondie.** The chorus says it all: “Dreaming is free.” Emaline's limited by a lot of things in this story—money, family, people who aren't who she wishes they could be—but in the end, I think she still ends up in a good place. You can't stop hoping and wishing and just thinking things will and can happen. What's the harm in it? After all, it doesn't cost anything.



# Which Dessen Girl Are You Most Like?

Fill out the survey below, add your scores together, and find out which Sarah Dessen character you are most like.

**You are always the first to volunteer for the pep rally.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**You like to make lists and are always on top of your assignments.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**Making people happy is important to you.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**You catch yourself looking at old Facebook pictures and remember how happy you were.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**Helping people with their problems makes you happy.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**True love? Well it doesn't exist ...**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**When you have a problem, you go to a friend/family member right away.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**Your friends are really supportive of what you do.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**You have good ideas, but they aren't always heard.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

**People are constantly letting you down.**

no way 1 2 3 4 5 absolutely!

## 10-16 points: **Ruby** *Lock & Key*

A Ruby to the core, you are independent. You are a go-getter and don't need help from anyone when it comes to meeting your goals. But don't let your independence close you off. A little help from an unlikely place may be just what you need. Try letting your guard down and look for the good in people rather than their motives.

## 17-22 points: **Remy** *This Lullaby*

Known for being calm, cool, and collected, you pride yourself on being "realistic." You know that things don't always work out, especially when it comes to love, and some people may even call you cynical. But like Remy, don't be afraid to take a chance. While the end result may not come out as you hoped, it's the chances you take that make the journey worthwhile.

## 23-29 points: **Halley** *Someone Like You*

Don't let your shyness fool them—or you. Just like Halley discovers, you are a lot stronger than you give yourself credit for. Surround yourself by others who build you up instead of bring you down. Their faith in you may help restore your confidence and give you the encouragement you need to let your voice be heard.

## 30-36 points: **Deb** *What Happened to Goodbye*

You are the best friend. Kind, caring, and always looking out for people. You know what it takes to be the support system your friends need. But just like Deb, you have a confidence inside that deserves to be recognized. Next time there is a problem, try speaking up. There's a leader deep down inside of you, so don't be afraid to show others just how great your ideas really are!

## 37-42 points: **Annabel** *Just Listen*

Trying to make everyone happy can be exhausting—especially when there is something that is really bothering you. But just like Annabel, if you start to open up, you'll realize that no one is perfect. All it takes is someone special to give you the confidence to talk about what is going on in your world and to help you accept that some things are far from perfect.

## 43-50 points: **Haven** *That Summer*

There was a time in your life when everything seemed perfect, but now it seems like nothing makes sense. Living in the past is not always the best answer. Try using the good memories to help you deal with whatever obstacles are thrown your way. It may seem hard at times but, just like Haven, you'll never know until you try.

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# How well do you know your Dessen?

1) Which one is Sarah's first published book?

- a. *Lock & Key*      c. *Dreamland*
- b. *Along for the Ride*      d. *That Summer*

2) In ***Someone Like You***, what does Scarlett name her baby?

- a. Anna Kate      c. Elizabeth Ann
- b. Grace Halley      d. Anna Grace

3) In ***What Happened to Goodbye***, which of these was not a name Mclean used to reinvent herself?

- a. Beth      c. Eliza
- b. Lizbeth      d. Elyse

4) In ***Someone Like You***, who does Halley go to prom with?

- a. Noah      c. Michael
- b. Macon      d. Josh

5) In ***Keeping the Moon***, what is Colie doing when she runs into Norman?

- a. Leaving Isabel's house      c. Going for a jog
- b. Reading      d. On her way to dance practice

6) In ***Lock and Key***, what is Ruby's mother's name?

- a. Michelle      c. Kristin
- b. Kerry      d. Ruby

7) What is the name of the catering company in ***The Truth About Forever?***

- a. A Serving of Helpful Catering Co.      c. Wish Catering
- b. Be Our Guest      d. Here to Serve to Dance Practice

8) In ***Just Listen***, what is the name of Owen's radio show?

- a. Punk'd with Owen      c. Anger Management
- b. Technically Techno      d. On Beat with Owen

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and join the conversation at **sarah-land.ning.com**



9) What is the name of Dexter's dog in ***This Lullaby***?

- a. Scout      c. Lucky
- b. Monkey    d. Bear

10) In ***Dreamland***, what does everyone forget the day they discover Caitlin's older sister has run away from home?

- a. To pick her up from school      b. Her birthday
- c. That she is supposed to take her driving test that day
- d. To turn off the coffee pot and a fire starts in the kitchen

11) In ***What Happened to Goodbye***, what is the name of the restaurant that Mcclean and her friends use as a "meeting space" to build the model of the town?

- a. Lakeview Tavern      c. The Shiny Diner
- b. Luna Blu              d. The Corner Bistro

12) In ***Dreamland***, what activity does Caitlin hate doing?

- a. cheerleading      c. swimming
- b. dancing            d. basketball

13) In ***The Truth About Forever***, what job does Macy decide to quit because she doesn't like her co-workers?

- a. The Pizza Parlor      c. The Grocery Store
- b. The Catering Company    d. The Library

14) In ***Along for the Ride***, what is the secret treat sold in the back of the Laundromat that Eli shares with Auden?

- a. donuts      c. cake
- b. pie          d. pizza

15) In ***Along for the Ride***, what do Eli and Auden have in common?

- a. They both love riding bikes.      c. They both love surfing.
- b. They both are insomniacs.        d. They both are going to the same college.

Answers:  
(1) d (2) b (3) d (4) a (5) a (6) d (7) c (8) c (9) b (10) b (11) b (12) a (13) d (14) b (15) b

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# Who's Your Sarah Dessen Dream date?

Want to know which Dessen guy would be your Prince Charming? Answer the questions and follow the path to find out just which cutie you'd end up with if you were the leading lady!

START: What color is your nail polish?

Pale Pink

you want a guy who will

Texts you to ask if you want to hang out after school

You secretly have a crush on...

Your best friend

Ask you to go to the dance in front of all your friends

You run for student body president because...

Your older sister's boyfriend

Your college applications

The "cause"

A comedy starring Owen Wilson

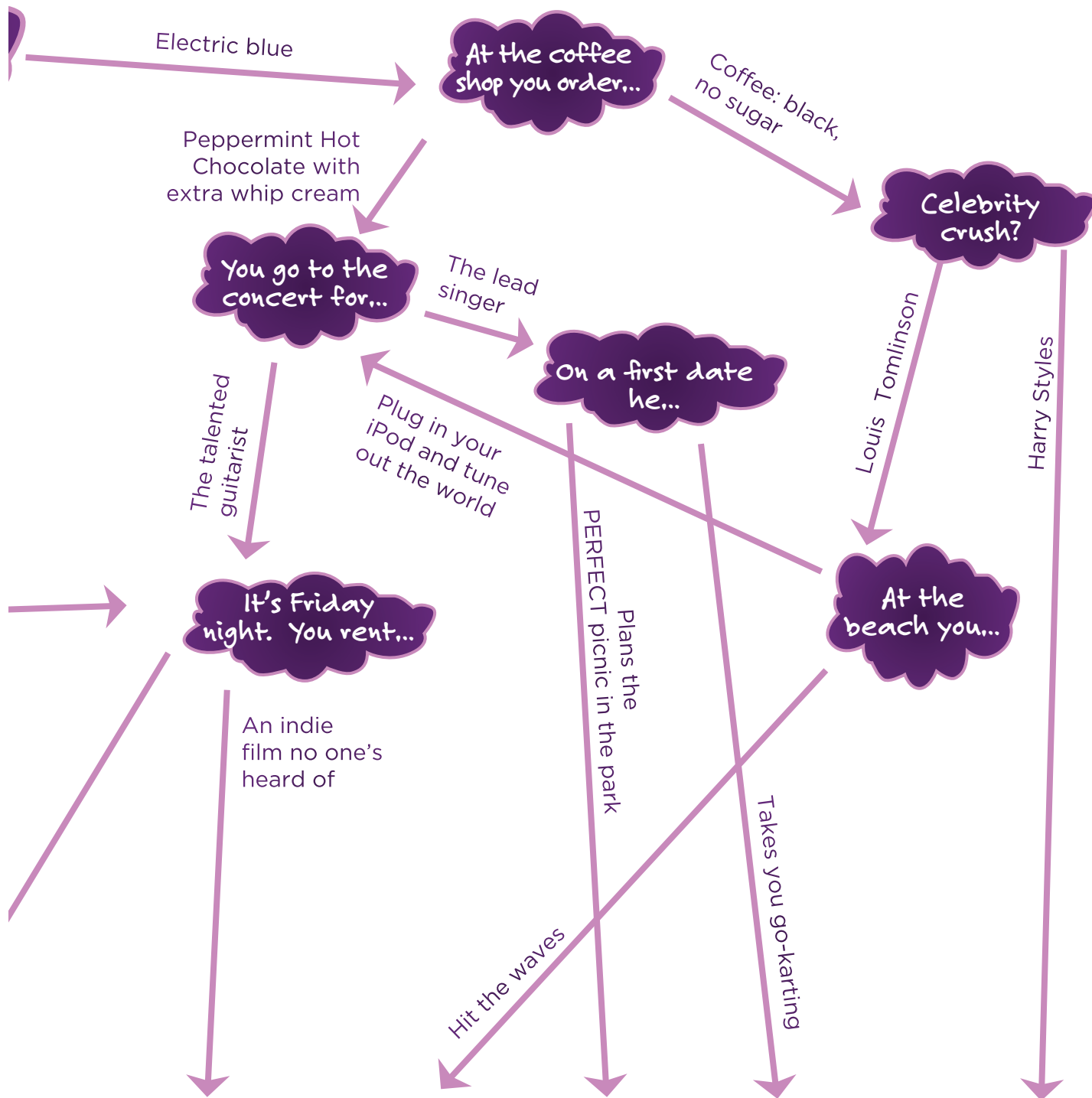
**NATE** *Lock and Key*  
You are a girl who thinks the best relationships come from friendship so Nate's your perfect "boy next door!" His sweet and genuine personality are revealed with trust, and you are up for the challenge of winning his heart.

**DAVE** *What Happened to Goodbyes?*  
An intellectual, Dave's smartness instantly draws you to him. You like a guy who can hold his own in a conversation with you and Dave's confidence makes him a perfect match.

**OWEN** *Just Listen*  
You like a guy who tells it like it is and isn't afraid to show you his sensitive side. He's caring, honest, and mysterious all at the same time! Oh, and his knowledge of music is something that makes all your friends green with envy.

**DEXTER** *This Lullaby*  
You have a soft spot for musicians and Dexter has your heart making beats you didn't even know existed! His carefree mentality and outgoing personality make him irresistible. And he always knows how to put a smile on your face!





**ELI** *Along for the Ride*  
A sucker for a tortured soul, you can't help but fall hard for this dreamy ex-biker. His adventurous nature keeps you on your toes and you'd be more than happy to stay up late drinking coffee with this definite cutie.

**NORMAN** *Keeping the Moon*  
Your free spirit has you falling for this eccentric surfer-boy. But don't let his shyness fool you. Deep down inside is a confident guy who's not afraid to do what it takes to show you just how great you are!

**WES** *The Truth About Forever*  
A perfectionist, you need a guy who will help you relax when you're stressed out and always knows the perfect thing to say to make you laugh. This charming artist is a great listener and is never quick to judge.

**THEO** *The Moon and More*  
Theo, a super ambitious outsider, may just be the guy you need to change things up. Till now, your life has gone as planned. But deep down inside craving something—or someone—else. Theo's open mind will help you see the world in ways you never imagined!

**MACON** *Someone Like You*  
The type of girl who just can't resist the "bad boy," Macon had you hooked the minute he entered Scarlett's house. But beware—his charm and confidence can be misleading!

# Book Club Questions

These questions are sure to spark the interest of every reader. Whether they are new to the Dessen suite, or have read every book, everyone will be able to answer and discuss issues of relationships, moving away, change, and loss and letting go. Use the questions below as a guide, but feel free to veer from the script!

## Relationships

- ★ In *Someone Like You*, Hailey and Scarlett are more than the best of friends—they are family to each other. Do you have a friend with whom you feel that way? What is it about him or her that you feel so connected to? How would your life be altered without this friend?
- ★ Having a boyfriend with whom you can share a connection can be incredible unless the relationship becomes toxic like Caitlin's and Rogerson's in *Dreamland*. What advice would you give to a friend who is suffering through a dysfunctional or abusive relationship? Beyond talking to your friend, what other resources could you utilize to help your friend get the help he/she needs?
- ★ In *Just Listen*, Annabelle has to learn that though it may be difficult, some friendships aren't worth salvaging and a new friend (even one who is unconventional) may be right there waiting in the wings for you to embrace him or her. Have you ever been in a situation like Annabelle's, where a close friend proves that he or she isn't who you thought he/she was? If so, how did you deal with that experience? In your opinion, is it sometimes better to let a friendship end and move on, rather than compromise yourself for another person?

## Moving Away and Moving On

- ★ For Colie in *Keeping the Moon*, moving on and learning to believe in herself and appreciate who she really is comes after a magical summer in Colby. Why is it often so hard to have faith in ourselves? Who or what do you turn to as a support system to help you be the very best person you can be? In what ways do you support the people who matter most in your life?
- ★ In *What Happened to Goodbye*, Mclean uses each move she makes with her father as a way to reinvent herself and continue to hide from the reality of her family's past. What do you think the best thing about moving away and starting anew is? What are the drawbacks? If you had the opportunity, would you want to reinvent yourself? Why or why not? Do you think it takes leaving to make a fresh start?
- ★ One of the challenges for Emaline in *The Moon and More* is letting go of Colby and moving on to her future at East U. Why do you think moving away and embracing the next chapter of life can be so challenging? What are the benefits of adopting a "Let's see where life takes me" attitude?



## Loss and Letting Go

- ★ Losing a loved one can be a particularly difficult experience. For Macy in *The Truth About Forever*, it takes the support of friends to deal with the death of her father and begin to heal from her loss. Have you ever lost anyone with whom you were particularly close? If so, how did you cope? What advice would you give to a friend dealing with a loss?
- ★ In *Lock & Key*, Ruby struggles to come to terms with her mother's abandonment of her and the new life she is forced to live with her sister. With a new support system in place, she eventually learns to deal with her loss, let go, and embrace her new life. In thinking about Ruby's life (or someone in a similar situation), do you believe that forgiveness is a crucial part of letting go and moving forward with life? Why or why not?

## Change

- ★ In *This Lullaby*, Remy has lived her life being afraid to get too attached to anyone; if she starts feeling too close, it's time to give the guy "the speech" and let him go before she has to worry about losing him. This changes when she meets Dexter and she knows she has to learn to trust and follow her heart. Have you ever been in a similar situation where embracing a change allowed you a happiness you didn't think you were worthy of? How did you learn to be different in your approach? In your opinion, why is it important to be open to change?
- ★ All Haven from *That Summer* wants is for things to return to the way they were before, when her family was complete and everyone seemed happy. Do you think it's possible to go back and recapture a time when things were better? What's your best advice in helping someone deal with changes in his or her life?
- ★ In *Along for the Ride*, Auden's summer is filled with new friends and new experiences, teaching her that though change can be difficult, it can also be exactly what you need. If you could pick specific things you hope for your life (changes about it that you desire), what would those be? Do you have a plan for making those changes happen and getting what you want? Are there specific people who can help you accomplish those goals?

## PRAISE FOR SARAH DESSEN

**"Dessen explores the interior and exterior lives of her characters and shows their flaws, humanity, struggles, and incremental successes. This is young adult fiction at its best."**

—*School Library Journal* on *Just Listen*

★ **"Teens will just want to cheer."**

—*School Library Journal*, starred review for *Keeping the Moon*

**"Dessen has built a well-deserved reputation... her many fans won't be disappointed."**

—*Booklist* on *Along for the Ride*

**"This modern-day romance narrated by a cynical heroine offers a balance of wickedly funny moments and universal teen traumas."**

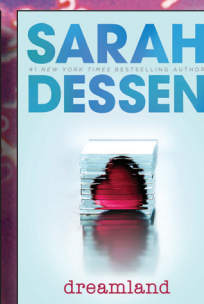
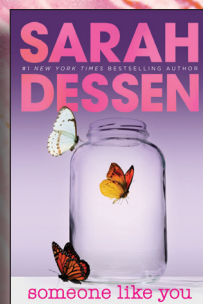
—*Publisher's Weekly* on *This Lullaby*

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Sarah Dessen is the author of ten previous novels for young adults, among them the *New York Times* bestsellers *What Happened to Goodbye*, *Along for the Ride*, *Lock & Key*, *Just Listen*, *The Truth about Forever*, and *This Lullaby*. Her first two novels, *That Summer* and *Someone Like You* were the basis for the movie *How to Deal*, starring Mandy Moore.

Sarah Dessen is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with highest honors in creative writing. She is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. Ms. Dessen lives in Chapel Hill with her husband, Jay, and their daughter, Sasha Clementine.



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