

# cracked up to be courtney summers

Cracked Up to Be Courtney Summers: A Deep Dive into the Novel and Author

**cracked up to be courtney summers** is a phrase that resonates strongly with fans of contemporary young adult fiction. Courtney Summers, known for her raw and emotionally charged storytelling, created a powerful narrative with her novel *\*Cracked Up to Be\**, capturing the complexities of high school life, personal struggles, and the haunting echoes of past trauma. If you've ever wondered what makes this book stand out or why Courtney Summers has become a prominent name in YA literature, this article will guide you through the intricacies of the novel, its themes, characters, and the unique voice of the author.

## Understanding *\*Cracked Up to Be\** by Courtney Summers

Courtney Summers' *\*Cracked Up to Be\** is not just another high school drama. It's a gripping exploration of the pressure to maintain a perfect image, the pain that hides behind smiles, and the harsh reality of bullying and mental health issues. Set in a suburban high school environment, the story unfolds through the perspective of the protagonist, Evie, who was once the queen bee but now faces social exile and inner turmoil.

## The Storyline and Its Impact

At its core, *\*Cracked Up to Be\** tells the story of Evie, who was at the pinnacle of popularity before a mysterious event caused her social downfall. The novel's narrative style, an intense first-person account, invites readers to unravel the mystery behind Evie's fractured reputation. The emotional depth and authenticity in Summers' writing make the reader feel the weight of Evie's regrets, fears, and ultimate search for redemption.

This novel is a poignant portrayal of the consequences of bullying, the fragility of friendships, and the impact of mental health struggles in adolescence. It doesn't shy away from difficult topics, making it a valuable read for teenagers and adults alike who want to understand the pressures young people face.

## The Signature Style of Courtney Summers

Courtney Summers has carved out a niche for herself in the young adult genre with her candid and unflinching approach to storytelling. Her novels, including *\*Cracked Up to Be\**, often feature flawed, complex female protagonists grappling with trauma, identity, and survival.

## What Sets Summers Apart?

Unlike many YA authors who lean towards lighter themes or romance, Summers dives deep into darker emotional landscapes. Her writing style is raw and visceral, often blending lyrical prose with gritty realism. This unique voice allows readers to connect deeply with her characters, feeling every pang of doubt, pain, or hope.

In *\*Cracked Up to Be\**, Summers employs a confessional tone that feels like reading a personal journal. This intimacy draws readers closer to Evie's internal battles, making the novel not just a story, but an emotional experience.

## Key Themes Explored in *\*Cracked Up to Be\**

One of the reasons *\*Cracked Up to Be\* Courtney Summers\** remains a compelling read is its exploration of universal themes through a personal lens. Here are some of the standout themes woven through the narrative:

### Bullying and Social Hierarchy

The novel exposes the cruelty and complexity of high school social dynamics. Evie's rise and fall within the social hierarchy illustrate how fleeting popularity can be and how damaging peer cruelty becomes. Summers handles this theme with sensitivity, avoiding clichés and instead providing nuanced portrayals of perpetrators and victims.

### Mental Health and Vulnerability

Evie's struggles with anxiety, depression, and self-worth are central to the story. By depicting her mental health challenges authentically, Summers helps destigmatize these issues and encourages readers to empathize with those who are silently suffering.

### Identity and Redemption

At its heart, *\*Cracked Up to Be\** is a journey about reclaiming one's identity after trauma. Evie's path towards self-forgiveness and understanding is a powerful reminder that everyone has cracks in their armor, but these don't define their worth.

## Why *\*Cracked Up to Be\** Resonates with Readers

Since its release, *\*Cracked Up to Be\** has resonated with a broad audience, not only because of its relatable characters but also due to Summers' ability to tackle difficult

subjects with honesty.

## Relatable Characters and Emotions

Many readers find themselves in Evie's story because it mirrors real-life struggles around acceptance, failure, and the fear of being judged. Summers' characters are multi-dimensional and realistic, reflecting the messy, complicated nature of adolescence.

## Encouraging Conversations About Mental Health

The book serves as a starting point for conversations about mental health, resilience, and the importance of seeking help. For educators and parents, *\*Cracked Up to Be\** offers a way to engage teens in discussions about emotional well-being.

## Appealing Writing Style

Summers' prose is accessible yet poetic, making the book both an easy read and a literary experience. Her use of sharp dialogue, internal monologues, and vivid imagery keeps readers hooked from start to finish.

## Exploring Other Works by Courtney Summers

If *\*Cracked Up to Be\** by Courtney Summers has piqued your interest, you might want to explore more of her novels. Summers has written several acclaimed books that share her signature style and thematic concerns.

## Notable Titles

- **Some Girls Are:** A dark thriller about toxic friendships and survival.
- **All the Rage:** Tackles sexual assault and the fight for justice.
- **Sadie:** A haunting story about a girl searching for her missing sister, blending mystery and emotional depth.

Each of these books continues Summers' exploration of pain, resilience, and the complex realities of young women's lives.

# Tips for Readers New to Courtney Summers

Diving into Courtney Summers' work can be an emotional journey, so here are some tips to enhance your reading experience:

- **Prepare for Intensity:** Her books often deal with heavy subjects. It's okay to take breaks and reflect.
- **Engage with Discussions:** Look for book clubs or online forums to share your thoughts and hear others' perspectives.
- **Explore Trigger Warnings:** If you're sensitive to topics like bullying or mental health struggles, check trigger warnings before reading.
- **Appreciate the Craft:** Notice Summers' use of language and structure. Her writing style is a big part of what makes her stories impactful.

## Final Thoughts on *\*Cracked Up to Be* Courtney Summers\*

*\*Cracked Up to Be\** is more than just a young adult novel; it's a candid look at the fragility and strength found in teenage years. Courtney Summers masterfully crafts a story that is at once heartbreaking and hopeful, encouraging readers to confront difficult emotions and recognize the value of empathy.

Whether you're a longtime fan or new to Summers' work, *\*Cracked Up to Be\** offers a meaningful exploration of identity, pain, and the possibility of healing. It's a reminder that while we all have cracks, those imperfections can make us who we truly are.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is *'Cracked Up to Be'* by Courtney Summers about?

*'Cracked Up to Be'* is a young adult novel by Courtney Summers that follows the story of Evie, a once-popular high school girl who returns after a mysterious disappearance, dealing with themes of identity, mental health, and the pressures of social status.

### Who is the main character in *'Cracked Up to Be'* by

## **Courtney Summers?**

The main character is Evie, a high school girl who struggles with her past and the expectations of her peers as she tries to reclaim her place in social circles.

## **What themes are explored in 'Cracked Up to Be' by Courtney Summers?**

The novel explores themes such as mental health, bullying, friendship, identity, social pressure, and the impact of rumors in high school.

## **Is 'Cracked Up to Be' by Courtney Summers suitable for young adult readers?**

Yes, it is a young adult novel that addresses mature and relatable issues faced by teenagers, making it suitable for that audience.

## **What makes Courtney Summers' writing style unique in 'Cracked Up to Be'?**

Courtney Summers is known for her raw and authentic portrayal of teenage emotions and struggles, using a gripping and emotional narrative style that resonates deeply with readers.

## **Has 'Cracked Up to Be' by Courtney Summers received any awards or recognition?**

While it may not have won major awards, 'Cracked Up to Be' has been praised by critics and readers alike for its honest depiction of mental health and social dynamics in high school.

## **How does 'Cracked Up to Be' address mental health issues?**

The book candidly explores Evie's struggles with anxiety, depression, and the stigma surrounding mental illness, highlighting the importance of understanding and support.

## **Can 'Cracked Up to Be' by Courtney Summers be used in educational settings?**

Yes, due to its relevant themes on mental health and social challenges, it is often used in classrooms and book clubs to spark discussions among teens.

## **Where can I purchase or read 'Cracked Up to Be' by**

## Courtney Summers?

'Cracked Up to Be' is available for purchase at major bookstores, online retailers like Amazon, and may also be found in local libraries and digital eBook platforms.

## Additional Resources

Cracked Up to Be Courtney Summers: A Deep Dive into the Novel's Impact and Themes

**cracked up to be courtney summers** emerges as a compelling exploration of adolescence, identity, and societal expectations, marking a significant entry in contemporary young adult literature. Known for her raw, emotionally charged storytelling, Courtney Summers delivers a narrative that challenges readers to confront uncomfortable truths about friendship, self-worth, and the often brutal landscape of high school life. This article investigates the novel's key themes, narrative style, and its reception among readers and critics alike, providing an analytical perspective on why *\*Cracked Up to Be\** resonates so profoundly.

## An Analytical Overview of *\*Cracked Up to Be\** by Courtney Summers

Courtney Summers has carved a niche for herself with novels that delve into the complexities of teenage struggles, and *\*Cracked Up to Be\** is no exception. The story centers around Evie, a once-popular high school girl grappling with the fallout of a personal tragedy and her subsequent social exile. Summers' narrative is marked by an unflinching honesty that refuses to sanitize the often messy realities of adolescence.

From a literary standpoint, *\*Cracked Up to Be\** employs a first-person narrative that intimately captures Evie's internal conflicts and the external pressures she faces. Summers uses this perspective to explore themes such as the fragility of social status, the impact of mental health issues in young adults, and the search for redemption and self-acceptance.

## Thematic Exploration: Mental Health and Social Isolation

One of the central themes in *\*Cracked Up to Be\** is mental health, an area that Summers approaches with sensitivity and nuance. The protagonist's struggles with depression and self-harm are portrayed not as plot devices but as genuine facets of her lived experience. This realistic depiction has contributed to the book's acclaim, as it opens up conversations about the stigmatization of mental illness among teenagers.

Social isolation is another poignant theme. Evie's fall from grace—from the apex of high school popularity to being the target of gossip and exclusion—illustrates the precariousness of adolescent social hierarchies. Summers critiques the often cruel nature of peer dynamics

and the ways in which young people cope with rejection and loneliness.

## Narrative Style and Character Development

Courtney Summers' prose in *\*Cracked Up to Be\** is direct yet evocative, balancing raw emotion with moments of introspection. The pacing is deliberate, allowing readers to fully immerse themselves in Evie's psychological landscape. This approach enhances the emotional impact of the story, ensuring that the character's journey feels authentic and relatable.

Character development is a strong suit of the novel. Evie is a complex figure—flawed, vulnerable, and at times unlikeable—which adds depth to the narrative. Summers avoids idealizing her protagonist, instead presenting a realistic portrayal of a teenager grappling with the consequences of her actions and the harsh judgments of her peers.

## Reception and Comparative Analysis

*\*Cracked Up to Be\** has garnered a mixed yet predominantly positive reception, particularly praised for its candid depiction of mental health and social dynamics. It holds a solid rating on platforms like Goodreads and Amazon, where readers have lauded Summers' ability to portray teenage angst and trauma authentically.

Comparatively, *\*Cracked Up to Be\** aligns with other contemporary YA novels that tackle difficult topics such as *\*Thirteen Reasons Why\** by Jay Asher and *\*Wintergirls\** by Laurie Halse Anderson. However, Summers' work stands out for its rawness and refusal to offer easy resolutions. Unlike some YA novels that opt for hopeful endings, *\*Cracked Up to Be\** presents a more ambiguous conclusion, reflecting the complexities of real-life healing and growth.

## Strengths and Limitations

- **Strengths:** The novel's honest portrayal of mental health, strong character voice, and exploration of social alienation are widely recognized as its key strengths.
- **Limitations:** Some readers find the book's tone heavy and emotionally taxing, and the lack of a neatly tied-up ending may not satisfy those seeking closure.

## Why *\*Cracked Up to Be\** Remains Relevant in YA

# Literature

The enduring relevance of *\*Cracked Up to Be\** in the young adult genre lies in its fearless approach to topics often considered taboo or uncomfortable. Courtney Summers does not shy away from depicting the darker aspects of teenage life, including self-destructive behavior, bullying, and the struggle for identity. Her work encourages empathy and understanding, making it a valuable resource for both young readers and educators.

Moreover, the novel's exploration of the fragility of social status and the impact of peer pressure resonates in an era where social media amplifies these dynamics. *\*Cracked Up to Be\** serves as a mirror reflecting the intense pressures faced by contemporary adolescents, making it a pertinent and insightful read.

## Impact on Readers and Educational Use

Many readers report that *\*Cracked Up to Be\** has helped them articulate their own experiences with mental health and social challenges. Its candidness fosters a sense of validation and connection, which is crucial for young people navigating similar issues.

In educational settings, the novel has been used to initiate discussions around mental health awareness, bullying prevention, and emotional resilience. Its realistic portrayal provides a platform for students to engage critically with these topics, promoting empathy and supportive peer interactions.

Throughout this exploration of *\*Cracked Up to Be\** Courtney Summers' novel stands as a testament to the power of authentic storytelling in illuminating the complexities of adolescence. By combining a compelling narrative with profound thematic depth, the book continues to influence readers and contribute meaningfully to conversations around youth mental health and social dynamics.

## [Cracked Up To Be Courtney Summers](#)

**cracked up to be courtney summers: Cracked Up to Be** Courtney Summers, 2008-12-23  
Classic Courtney Summers with a brand new look and exclusive bonus material! This ebook edition of *Cracked Up to Be* includes updated text, an afterword from the author and a discussion guide. The high price of perfection is one 'Perfect' Parker Fadley always believed she was willing to pay until the events of a party during junior year fractures the lives of her family and friends. Something terrible has happened and only Parker knows it's her fault. If being a perfect daughter, student, friend and girlfriend couldn't keep her from making an unforgivable mistake, Parker hopes becoming a perfect mess will at least keep her loved ones from discovering the truth. But when the arrival of a curious new student and the unexpected return of an old enemy threaten her tenuous grip on control, Parker must decide just how far she'll go to keep her secret from surfacing. Also available from Courtney Summers: *I'M THE GIRL*, the new brutally captivating (Publishers Weekly, starred review) queer thriller based loosely on The Epstein case.

**cracked up to be courtney summers: What Goes Around** Courtney Summers, 2013-09-03 Two

girls. Two secrets. Two gritty, critically acclaimed novels in one. For Parker, perfection is all that matters. No one will know how wrong she is inside if everything she does ends up right. But when the pressure proves too much, she makes a devastating mistake she'll do anything to keep hidden—even if it means becoming a perfect mess. For Regina, popularity comes with a price. When she's kicked out of her clique, she finds out what it's like to be those she's bullied and destroyed. Everyone says she has it coming . . . but is there something they don't know? There is more to these two girls than meets the eye. With unflinching honesty and a razor sharp voice, Courtney Summers brings the tensions of high school terrifyingly alive in *What Goes Around*.

**cracked up to be courtney summers: Cracked Up to Be** Courtney Summers, 2008-12-23 In this young adult novel debut, the story of a girl too smart for her own good who, after one tragic night, decides to reject the popular life in exchange for one of solitude. Perfect Parker Fadley isn't so perfect anymore. She's quit the cheerleading squad, she's dumped her perfect boyfriend, and she's failing school. Her parents are on a constant suicide watch and her counselors think she's playing games...but what they don't know, the real reason for this whole mess, isn't something she can say out loud. It isn't even something she can say to herself. A horrible thing has happened and it just might be her fault. If she can just remove herself from everybody--be totally alone--then everything will be okay...The problem is, nobody will let her. "Cracked Up To Be gives you Parker, her world, her friends, straight up, no chaser. You won't forget her." —Kathe Koja author of *Kissing The Bee*

**cracked up to be courtney summers: This Is Not a Test** Courtney Summers, 2012-06-19 Barricaded in Cortège High with five other teens while zombies try to get in, Sloane Price observes her fellow captives become more unpredictable and violent as time passes although they each have much more reason to live than she has.

**cracked up to be courtney summers: All the Rage** Courtney Summers, 2015-04-14 Classic Courtney Summers with a brand new look and exclusive bonus material! This ebook edition of *All the Rage* includes a discussion guide. The sheriff's son, Kellan Turner, is not the golden boy everyone thinks he is, and Romy Grey knows that for a fact. Because no one wants to believe a girl from the wrong side of town, the truth about him has cost her everything. Branded a liar and bullied relentlessly, Romy's only refuge is the diner she works at outside of town, where she can finally be anonymous. But when a girl with ties to both Romy and Kellan goes missing after a party, Romy must decide whether she wants to fight or carry the burden of knowing more girls could get hurt if she doesn't speak up. Nobody believed her the first time and they certainly won't now — but the cost of her silence might be more than she can bear. Also available from Courtney Summers: *I'M THE GIRL*, the new brutally captivating (Publishers Weekly, starred review) queer thriller based loosely on The Epstein case.

**cracked up to be courtney summers: The Project** Courtney Summers, 2021-02-02 The Project is a pulls-no-punches story from New York Times bestselling and Edgar Award winning author Courtney Summers, about an aspiring young journalist determined to save her sister no matter the cost. The #1 Indie Next Pick and winner of the International Thriller Writers Award. BELIEVE HIM, BETRAY HER 1998: Six-year-old Bea doesn't want a sister but everything changes when Lo is born early. Small and frail, Lo needs someone to look out for her. Having a sister is a promise, Mom says—one Bea's determined not to break. 2011: A car wreck, their parents dead. Lo would've died too if not for Lev Warren, the charismatic leader of The Unity Project. He's going to change the world and after he saves Lo's life, Bea wants to commit to his extraordinary calling. Lev promises a place for the girls in the project, where no harm will ever come to them again . . . if Bea proves herself to him first. 2017: Lo doesn't know why Bea abandoned her for The Unity Project after the accident, but she never forgot what Bea said the last time they spoke: We'll see each other again. Six years later, Lo is invited to witness the group's workings, meet with Lev, and—she hopes—finally reconnect with her sister. But Bea is long gone, and the only one who seems to understand the depths of this betrayal is Lev. If it's family Lo wants, he can make her a new promise . . . if she proves herself to him first. Powerful, suspenseful and heartbreaking, *The Project* follows two sisters who fall prey to the same cult leader—and their desperate fight back to one another.

**cracked up to be courtney summers:** Sadie Courtney Summers, 2018-09-04 Available now: I'M THE GIRL, the new brutally captivating (Publishers Weekly, starred review) queer thriller from Courtney Summers, based loosely on The Epstein case and not for the faint of heart (The New York Times) Sadie: a novel for readers of any age, and a character as indelible as a scar. Flat-out dazzling. —A. J. Finn, #1 New York Times bestselling author of The Woman in the Window A New York Times bestseller! An Edgar Award Winner! Appearing on over 30 Best Book of 2018 lists including The Boston Globe, Bustle, Buzzfeed, Globe and Mail, Good Morning America, NPR, Publishers Weekly, and more! A YALSA Top 10 Quick Pick 4 Starred Reviews from Kirkus, School Library Journal, Booklist, Publishers Weekly! Sadie: a novel for readers of any age, and a character as indelible as a scar. Flat-out dazzling. —A. J. Finn, #1 New York Times bestselling author of The Woman in the Window Sadie is an electrifying, high-stakes road trip. Clear your schedule. You're not going anywhere until you've reached the end. —Stephanie Perkins, New York Times bestselling author of There's Someone Inside Your House and Anna and the French Kiss A haunting, gut-wrenching, and relentlessly compelling read. —Veronica Roth, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Carve the Mark and the Divergent series A missing girl on a journey of revenge. A Serial—like podcast following the clues she's left behind. And an ending you won't be able to stop talking about. "Today, WNRK is launching the first episode of our new serialized podcast, The Girls, created and hosted by West McCray." When popular radio personality West McCray receives a desperate phone call from a stranger imploring him to find nineteen-year-old runaway Sadie Hunter, he's not convinced there's a story there; girls go missing all the time. But when it's revealed that Sadie fled home after the brutal murder of her little sister, Mattie, West travels to the small town of Cold Creek, Colorado, to uncover what happened. Sadie has no idea that her journey to avenge her sister will soon become the subject of a blockbuster podcast. Armed with a switchblade, Sadie follows meager clues hoping they'll lead to the man who took Mattie's life, because she's determined to make him pay with his own. But as West traces her path to the darkest, most dangerous corners of big cities and small towns, a deeply unsettling mystery begins to unfold—one that's bigger than them both. Can he find Sadie before it's too late? Alternating between Sadie's unflinching voice as she hunts the killer and the podcast transcripts tracking the clues she's left behind, Sadie is a breathless thriller about the lengths we go to protect the ones we love and the high price we pay when we can't. It will haunt you long after you reach the final page.

**cracked up to be courtney summers:** The Girl-Positive Library Mary Ann Harlan, 2018-12-07 Providing a model of critique useful in readers advisory, collection development, and book clubs, this title encourages the inclusion of young adult titles advancing a positive representation of girls in programming and instruction. Even in an era in which there are multiple and wide-ranging conversations about representations of diverse groups in literature, the depiction of girls in young adult literature has received inadequate attention. This text provides a model for understanding how girls are represented in young adult literature that will aid school and youth services librarians in their personal understanding and awareness as they build collections and create programming. It provides practical suggestions for how to use and implement a feminist lens while reading, discussing, and reviewing titles. Included are a list of recommended annotated titles and discussion questions for use in developing appropriate instructional and interesting programs that explore concepts of girlhood, media literacy programs, and diverse collections.

**cracked up to be courtney summers:** Ensouling Our Schools Jennifer Katz, 2018-06-04 In an educational milieu in which standards and accountability hold sway, schools can become places of stress, marginalization, and isolation instead of learning communities that nurture a sense of meaning and purpose. In Ensouling Our Schools, author Jennifer Katz weaves together methods of creating schools that engender mental, spiritual, and emotional health while developing intellectual thought and critical analysis. Kevin Lamoureux contributes his expertise regarding Indigenous approaches to mental and spiritual health that benefit all students and address the TRC Calls to Action.

**cracked up to be courtney summers:** Please Remain Calm Courtney Summers, 2015-01-20 In

Please Remain Calm, the gripping sequel to Courtney Summers' *This is Not a Test*, Rhys and Sloane are headed for a safe haven when they get separated along the way. Rhys is determined to reunite with Sloane until he discovers people who might need him more--people who offer him the closest he'll get to everything he's lost, if they can just hold on long enough. Rhys thinks he has what it takes to survive and find Sloane, but in a world overrun by the dead, there are no guarantees and the next leg of his journey will test him in unimaginable ways...

**cracked up to be courtney summers:** Reading Like a Girl Sara K. Day, 2013-06-03 By examining the novels of critically and commercially successful authors such as Sarah Dessen (*Someone Like You*), Stephenie Meyer (the *Twilight* series), and Laurie Halse Anderson (*Speak*), *Reading Like a Girl: Narrative Intimacy in Contemporary American Young Adult Literature* explores the use of narrative intimacy as a means of reflecting and reinforcing larger, often contradictory, cultural expectations regarding adolescent women, interpersonal relationships, and intimacy. *Reading Like a Girl* explains the construction of narrator-reader relationships in recent American novels written about adolescent women and marketed to adolescent women. Sara K. Day explains, though, that such levels of imagined friendship lead to contradictory cultural expectations for the young women so deeply obsessed with reading these novels. Day coins the term "narrative intimacy" to refer to the implicit relationship between narrator and reader that depends on an imaginary disclosure and trust between the story's narrator and the reader. Through critical examination, the inherent contradictions between this enclosed, imagined relationship and the real expectations for adolescent women's relations prove to be problematic. In many novels for young women, adolescent female narrators construct conceptions of the adolescent woman reader, constructions that allow the narrator to understand the reader as a confidant, a safe and appropriate location for disclosure. At the same time, such novels offer frequent warnings against the sort of unfettered confession the narrators perform. Friendships are marked as potential sites of betrayal and rejection. Romantic relationships are presented as inherently threatening to physical and emotional health. And so, the narrator turns to the reader for an ally who cannot judge. The reader, in turn, may come to depend upon narrative intimacy in order to vicariously explore her own understanding of human expression and bonds.

**cracked up to be courtney summers:** *The Little Red Book of Hope* Nick Lyons, Tony Lyons, 2013-04-20 Hope is an interesting thing. Some think it's foolish, often misplaced, and at rarer times devastating; but more agree that hope is an integral and beautiful part of life, something that implicitly makes us human. We're always hoping for something—for change, for improvement, or to find peace of mind amid life's bustling demands. These things are often the subjects of our deepest desires, those things that can bring us true happiness. Fortunately for all of us who count ourselves among the hopeful, there has been plenty of wisdom bestowed from some of the greatest minds and noteworthy individuals throughout history, including: Albert Einstein Albert Camus Barack Obama Benjamin Franklin John Lennon George Bernard Shaw Abraham Lincoln And many others! *The Little Red Book of Hope* is an inspired collection of uplifting thoughts about what it is that allows us to persevere; about the primacy of the human spirit, and ultimately, about the redemptive power and vitality of hope.

**cracked up to be courtney summers:** Saving June Hannah Harrington, 2011-11-22 After her sister's suicide, Harper Scott takes off for California with her best friend Laney to scatter her sister's ashes in the Pacific Ocean.

**cracked up to be courtney summers:** Speechless Hannah Harrington, 2012-08-28 Everyone knows that Chelsea Knot can't keep a secret Until now. Because the last secret she shared turned her into a social outcast—and nearly got someone killed. Now Chelsea has taken a vow of silence—to learn to keep her mouth shut, and to stop hurting anyone else. And if she thinks keeping secrets is hard, not speaking up when she's ignored, ridiculed and even attacked is worse. But there's strength in silence, and in the new friends who are, shockingly, coming her way—people she never noticed before; a boy she might even fall for. If only her new friends can forgive what she's done. If only she can forgive herself.

**cracked up to be courtney summers: The Reece Malcolm List** Amy Spalding, 2013-02-05

When her father dies suddenly, Devan is shipped off to Los Angeles to live with her estranged mother, Reece Malcolm, a bestselling novelist with little time for a daughter, and Devan navigates her way through her new performing arts school.

**cracked up to be courtney summers: Violent Ends** Shaun David Hutchinson, Neal

Shusterman, Brendan Shusterman, Beth Revis, Cynthia Leitich Smith, Courtney Summers, Kendare Blake, Delilah S. Dawson, Steve Brezenoff, Tom Leveen, Hannah Moskowitz, Blythe Woolston, Trish Doller, Mindi Scott, Margie Gelbwasser, Christine Johnson, E. M. Kokie, Elisa Nader, 2015-09-01 In a one-of-a-kind collaboration, seventeen of the most recognizable YA writers—including Shaun David Hutchinson, Neal and Brendan Shusterman, and Beth Revis—come together to share the viewpoints of a group of students affected by a school shooting. It took only twenty-two minutes for Kirby Matheson to exit his car, march onto the school grounds, enter the gymnasium, and open fire, killing six and injuring five others. But this isn't a story about the shooting itself. This isn't about recounting that one unforgettable day. This is about one boy—who had friends, enjoyed reading, playing saxophone in the band, and had never been in trouble before—became a monster capable of entering his school with a loaded gun and firing bullets at his classmates. Each chapter is told from a different victim's viewpoint, giving insight into who Kirby was and who he'd become. Some are sweet, some are dark; some are seemingly unrelated, about fights or first kisses or late-night parties. This is a book told from multiple perspectives—with one character and one event drawing them all together—by some of YA's most recognizable names.

**cracked up to be courtney summers: Bookish Boyfriends** Tiffany Schmidt, 2018-05-01 A

teenage rabid romance reader finds herself in her own version of *Pride & Prejudice* in this sweet and swoony series opener. Boys are so much better in books. At least according to Merrilee Campbell, fifteen, who thinks real-life chivalry is dead and there'd be nothing more romantic than having a guy woo her like the heroes in classic stories. Then she, her best friend, Eliza, and her younger sister, Rory, transfer to Reginald R. Hero Prep—where all the boys look like they've stepped off the pages of a romance novel. Merri can hardly walk across the quad without running into someone who reminds her of Romeo. When the brooding and complicated Monroe Stratford scales Merri's trellis in an effort to make her his, she thinks she might be Juliet incarnate. But as she works her way through her literature curriculum under the guidance of an enigmatic teacher, Merri's tale begins to unfold in ways she couldn't have imagined. Merri soon realizes that only she is in charge of her story. And it is a truth universally acknowledged that first impressions can be deceiving . . .

"Schmidt ably captures the discombobulation and turn-on-a-dime emotions experienced by many early teens, and surrounds Merri with a believable cast of supporting characters. This contemporary rom-com series starter is a fun introduction to classics for middle-grade readers and younger YAs, wittily making old stories new again." ?Booklist, starred review "Schmidt unapologetically places romance, and more romance, at the heart of this YA novel for younger teens . . . Ultimately Schmidt pits Romeo against a Mr. Darcy type in this romantic comedy (complete with Bridget Jones-like mishaps), whose heroine must open herself to the idea that the boy she least expects may turn out to be her real romantic hero." —Publishers Weekly "This meshing of romantic classics and modern-day relationships is over-the-top good fun for tween romantics." —Kirkus Reviews

**cracked up to be courtney summers: Beautiful Music for Ugly Children** Kirstin

Cronn-Mills, 2012-10-08 Gabe has always identified as a boy, but he was born with a girl's body. With his new public access radio show gaining popularity, Gabe struggles with romance, friendships, and parents. His entire future is threatened when several violent guys find out that Gabe the DJ is also Elizabeth from school.

**cracked up to be courtney summers: Page by Page** Laura Lee Gulledge, 2011-09-01 Paige

Turner has just moved to New York with her family, and she's having some trouble adjusting to the big city. In the pages of her sketchbook, she tries to make sense of her new life, including trying out her secret identity: artist. As she makes friends and starts to explore the city, she slowly brings her secret identity out into the open, a process that is equal parts terrifying and rewarding. Laura Lee

Gulledge crafts stories and panels with images that are thought-provoking, funny, and emotionally resonant. Teens struggling to find their place can see themselves in Paige's honest, heartfelt story. Praise for Page by Paige "Gulledge's b&w illustrations are simple but well-suited to their subject matter; the work as a whole is a good-natured, optimistic portrait of a young woman evolving toward adulthood." -Publishers Weekly

**cracked up to be courtney summers: Lie to Me** Kaitlin Ward, 2020-01-07 From the author of the acclaimed novels *Girl in a Bad Place* and *Where She Fell* comes a pulse-pounding novel about love, betrayal, and a serial killer. Ever since Amelia woke up in the hospital, recovering from a near-death fall she has no memory of, she's been suspicious. Her friends, family, and doctors insist it was an accident, but Amelia is sure she remembers being pushed. Then another girl is found nearby -- one who fell, but didn't survive. Amelia's fears suddenly feel very real, and with the help of her new boyfriend, Liam, she tries to investigate her own horrific ordeal. But what is she looking for, exactly? And how can she tell who's trustworthy, and who might be -- must be -- lying to her? The closer Amelia gets to the truth, the more terrifying her once orderly, safe world becomes. She's determined to know what happened, but if she doesn't act fast, her next accident might be her last.

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