The Truth About Forever
By Sarah Dessen
Published by Penguin Young Readers Group

Sara Dessen, a New York Times best-selling author and favored teen novelist, fills the plot of this epic summer tale with denial, fear, and romance. The main character, Macy Queen, is a sixteen-year-old girl striving to gain closure from the recent death of her father. While standing in for her brainy, unaffectionate, arrogant boyfriend at his “dull-as-dishwater” job at the library, their relationship begins to crumble. When Dessen introduces the Wish Catering crew to the story, Macy’s life accelerates as she often stumbles across the eccentric, fast-paced group. Offered a generous position with Wish, Macy accepts the job as a getaway from her boring life at the library and ‘workaholic’ mother. At this enterprise, Macy adapts to her colleagues’ lifestyles, learning more each day. As the text sculptures around the traits of Macy’s workmates and her realization of “life and forever”, she falls for Wes. When they help her come to terms with the past, Dessen wraps up the tale, instilling a remarkable life lesson in her audience, throwing in a satisfying amount of romance. In this realistic novel of emotional humanity, Dessen indulges her readers with a flawless piece of literature, teaching of one resilient girl putting her life back together.

Reviewed by...

Lindsay Quintero
Learwood Middle, Avon Lake

Teacher:
Kim Johnson

Grade: 8

What is your favorite book?:
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants.

Where is your favorite place to read?
In my room.

What type of books do you prefer?
Historical fiction or realistic fiction.

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