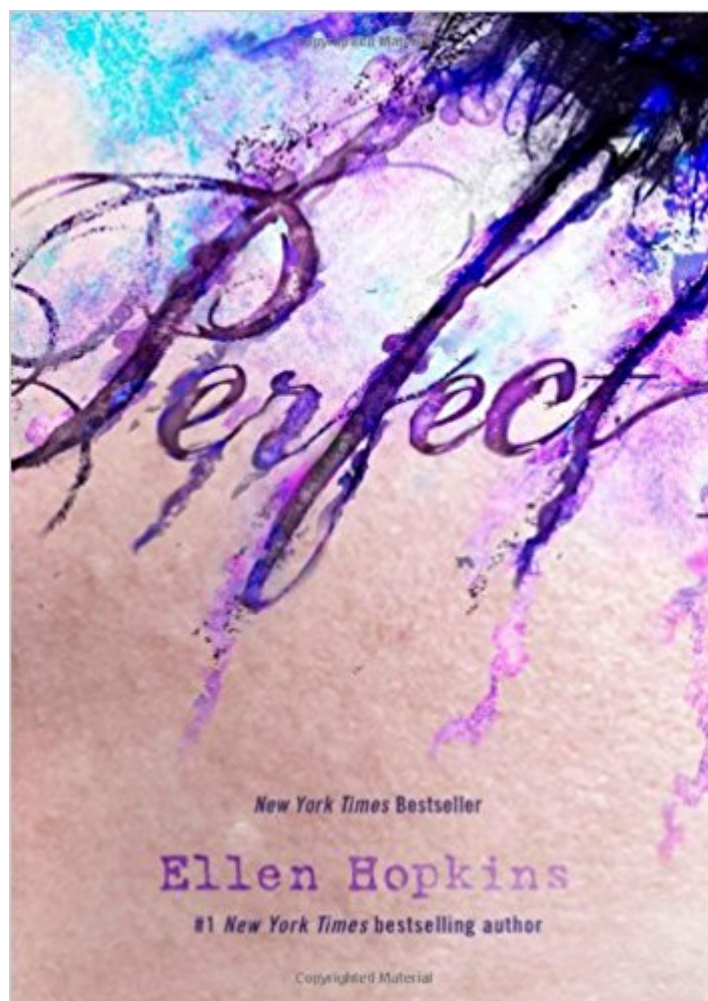


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Perfect



Synopsis

What would you give up to be perfect? Four teens find out in the New York Times bestselling companion to *Impulse*. Everyone has something, someone, somewhere else that they'd rather be. For four high school seniors, their goals of perfection are just as different as the paths they take to get there. Cara's parents' unrealistic expectations have already sent her twin brother Conner spiraling toward suicide. For her, perfect means rejecting their ideals to take a chance on a new kind of love. Kendra covets the perfect face and body no matter what surgeries and drugs she needs to get there. To score his perfect home run on the field and off Sean will sacrifice more than he can ever win back. And Andre realizes that to follow his heart and achieve his perfect performance, he'll be living a life his ancestors would never understand. A riveting and startling companion to the bestselling *Impulse*, Ellen Hopkins's *Perfect* exposes the harsh truths about what it takes to grow up and grow into our own skins, our own selves.

Book Information

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Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Depression & Mental Illness #68 in Books >

Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Self Esteem & Reliance

Customer Reviews

"This page-turner pulls no emotional punches." (Kirkus Reviews)"Hopkins sticks to the signature style that has made her books bestsellers, blending verse poetry with controversial topics . . . to intrigue her fans and recruit new ones." (Publishers Weekly)"This companion to *Impulse* can stand alone, but packs considerably more punch when read contiguously as intended. . . .

Hopkins's legions of fans will no doubt devour *Perfect* and welcome the return of the

characters they learned to love in *Impulse*." (School Library Journal)"Hopkins addresses teens' struggle with unrealistic expectations in gut-wrenching free verse." (Booklist)"At its nucleus, four teenagers are grappling with insecurities that become exacerbated when loved ones turn up the heat. . . . The unrestricted access Hopkins employs is formidable: parents, siblings, love interests, and outliers all thrust frank judgment on the characters. It is how Cara, Sean, Kendra, and Andre react that encourages readers' emotional attachments. Her writing conveys teenage quandaries with all of the intended consequences, as the verse style only serves to shock as the events unfold." (VOYA)

Ellen Hopkins is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of eleven young adult novels, as well as the adult novels *Triangles*, *Collateral*, and *Love Lies Beneath*. She lives with her family in Carson City, Nevada, where she has founded Ventana Sierra, a nonprofit youth housing and resource initiative. Visit her at EllenHopkins.com and on Facebook, and follow her on Twitter at @EllenHopkinsLit.

'*Triangles*' is the first adult novel that Ellen Hopkins has written and I think it was absolutely brilliant. '*Triangles*' was the story of three women whose lives connect in multiple ways, some of those ways being through friendship, tragedy, and family. As these stories unfolded I really got pulled into their worlds and I couldn't get enough. Each individual story is amazing in its own way. Marissa's story broke my heart but I think it was beautifully written and it touched me on many levels. I couldn't imagine going through what her family had to and I realize so many families out there do, which is just so devastating. It's a real eye opener and I hope more people will read this book if simply for that reason. I feel for Andrea, she is a very strong woman who continues to get dealt a bad hand. However throughout it all she knows her daughter is all that matters, even when she stumbles into some really bad habits involving a friend's husband. Holly however is a bit of a wild child still and if I want to be completely honest there was a few times I wanted to smack her but her story was still very entertaining and sometimes bordered on being raunchy. Overall this book was brilliant; the writing took some amazing talent and I was addicted to it. I finished it in two days. I literally couldn't put down. Ellen Hopkins has done it again, if you haven't read any of her books, you don't know what you are missing. These will one day be considered classics as far as I am concerned. So if you haven't read her work, do it now, trust me you won't be disappointed. '*Triangles*' was an amazing novel and I would recommend it to everyone.

Anything Ellen Hopkins is my favorite. She is always able to suck you into her books and you can never put them down. She is able to capture the heartache and struggles of each different character. It paints the real picture of daily struggles everyone has but will not admit. While everything might seem perfect on the outside, you never know what someone is really going through. Hopkins always keep you enticed and on the edge of your seat you won't want to put it down!

I was not sure how I wanted to rate this book. Even though this was not one of my faves it was still very well written. We see a whole new side to Hopkins with this book, but still it felt so honestly written. Maybe I did not like it as much because it was not one of her YA books, something I have been used to. One thing for sure though is that her poetic side is just as prominent in this book as in all the others. Our characters in this book are still very real and very much believable. We look into the lives of three women. Holly, who know longer feels the desire for her husband or her life as she knows it as it teeters on regret, and goes on a extramarital sex binge. Andrea, who wishes she had the life that her friend Holly so desperately runs from, and Marissa who has a life devoted to her family full of overwhelming challenges such as her terminally ill daughter and her gay son. Her husband seems to have checked out and throws himself into his work. All very real situations as Hopkins rights it with no holds barred. I think I enjoyed Marissa's story the most. It was so open and honest, happy and sad. I felt the most emotion with her tale, I felt like I was there feeling everything Marissa was feeling. I also enjoyed how we could see each of the women's lives through the eyes of the other women. Put a whole new spin on each story being told, new perspectives. I gotta say at first I was kinda shocked at what Hopkins was writing, but as I got into the story it made me realize that these things happen all the time. Hopkins was able to tell it very well, so much so that the readers could almost imagine that it could have been part of her own life that was being told. She writes it so that we, her readers, can feel every hurt, every happiness, every sadness and every tear. So all you can do is read it for yourself and form your own opinion as to what you read within these pages. For me, I think a 3.5 star is fair and I am glad I got to read one of her adult books. Still written very well, very poetic and very honest. Even though it did not seem as dramatic as her YA novels are, it was still very enjoyable.

The sheer poetic format of this book makes it a wonder to read. Add three women's lives and love or search for love...and sex as their situations challenge them to make changes, and you have a startling revelation of a read. It is so good, so filled with thoughtful, poetic, sometimes poignant

reflections that I must read it again both to savor the brilliance and to reflect upon the reflections. Explore life with Missy, Andrea, and Holly, their spouses, children and lovers and delve into your own challenges, desires, and dreams.

4.5 i really enjoyed this book. a lot of the reviews seemed negative about the few explicit sex scenes or just that character in general but i felt that all three characters were great portrayals of the real frustrations that people have in life and yes some of the seemingly inappropriate ways that some people deal with that. it was just such a real and visceral feeling book and i just love the way that hopkins makes the verse style of writing really work. after one YA and then this book by her i'm definitely going to go back and read more. her writing just amazes me, especially the way she can make the characters come alive each in their own unique ways and again the verse style just adds to that. i definitely consider myself a fan now. and even though obviously most of the subjects written about can be hard to read you're just so drawn in that you have to keep reading even if you feel uncomfortable. just an amazing author!!

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