



2013

Thumped by Megan McCafferty

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McMullan, Lauren Kristele (2013) "Thumped by Megan McCafferty," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 33 : Iss. 2 , Article 12.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol33/iss2/12>

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Author: McCafferty, Megan

Title: *Thumped*

Year of Publication: 2012

Publisher: Balzer + Bray

ISBN: 9780061962769

Number of pages: 304

Rating: Dependable

Reading/Interest Level: Young Adult

Keywords: Science Fiction, Teen pregnancy; Family, Dystopian



Review:

Melody and Harmony are perhaps the world's most famous teenage, pregnant, identical twin sisters. They were separated at birth, raised in completely different circumstances, then reunited pre-pregnancy, in a world where a virus has wiped out a woman's ability to have children past age eighteen. At 35 weeks pregnant, Harmony has found an escape from her fame back in the religious reserve where she was raised. Meanwhile, Melody works to convince the world she is in love with Jondoe, the supposed father of her child, and hottest male teen in the U.S. But when the church threatens to take Harmony's baby away, she escapes to be with her sister and find out for sure that Jondoe is not lying when he claims she is the one he loves.

This incredibly fast-paced sequel to *Bumped* concludes the story well. The entire book happens within a couple of days and thus is kept tight and makes for a quick escapist read. Admittedly, some of the delight that came with the first's book magnificent use of author created slang, and discussion promoting originality is lost in the plot of the second. However, McCafferty does a fine job of maintaining consistency of character, ideas, and upkeep in the quality of the world she has created. McCafferty also does a considerably wonderful job tying up the story with enough of a twist to satisfy readers who are fans of happy endings, but not necessarily idealistic conclusions. In addition, it sends a strong, but not oppressive, positive message to teen girls about strength and courage in the face of peer or societal pressures that they do not agree with.

Reviewed by: Lauren Kristele McMullan

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