



2018

The Other Side of Summer

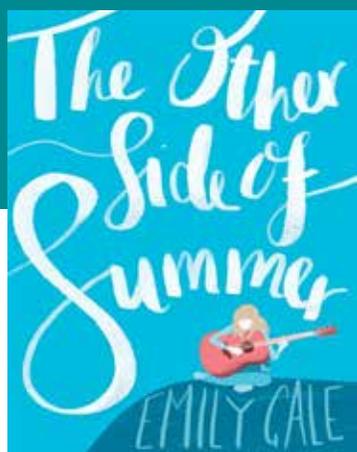
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Book Review

The Other Side of Summer

Thirteen-year-old Summer's life turns upside-down when her older brother, Floyd, dies in a bombing incident at Waterloo Station in London. Her family is devastated, and life has suddenly lost its color. Stuck in a rut, her father decides that what they really need is a change of scenery. He packs up their small apartment in London and moves the family to Australia. Summer, her sister Wren, and their father find themselves in sunny Australia surrounded by strangers and without the presence of Floyd. The only thing Summer has to hold on to is Floyd's old guitar. As Summer plays, a boy named Gabe is drawn to her music. Gabe is surrounded by mystery, and Summer must help him find out who he is before it's too late.

The Other Side of Summer by Emily Gale is a beautifully written book about loss, tragedy, and healing. The pain and loss that Summer experiences is so raw and real, and the growth and healing that she goes through is beautiful and touching. The characters are perfectly described and are well developed throughout the novel. The plot is easy to follow, but is also intriguing and exciting which makes it difficult to put down. The Other Side of Summer would be a great book for older elementary students, as well as a wonderful read for teenagers and adults. There is no language or explicit material in the book, but some readers may find the loss and death of Floyd to be sensitive.

Author

Emily Gale

Illustrator

Reviewer

Melissa Secor

Rating

Outstanding

Level

Young Adult

Pages

313

Year

2016

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