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Everything All At Once



Synopsis

A soaring novel by the critically acclaimed author of *The Half Life of Molly Pierce* and *The Lost & Found*, perfect for fans of Jennifer Niven and Rainbow Rowell. Lottie Reaves is not a risk taker. But she's about to take a leap into the unknown. When Lottie's beloved Aunt Helen dies of cancer, it upends her careful, quiet life. Aunt Helen wasn't a typical aunt. She was the world-famous author of the bestselling Alvin Hatter series. She knew a thing or two about the magic of writing, and how words have the power to make you see things differently. In her will, Aunt Helen leaves Lottie a series of letters—each containing mysterious instructions. As Lottie sets about following them, she realizes they're meant to make her take a risk, and, for once in her life, really live. But when the letters reveal an extraordinary secret about her aunt's past—and the inspiration for the Alvin Hatter series—Lottie finds herself faced with an impossible choice, one that will force her to confront her greatest fears once and for all. Part mysterious adventure, part love letter to the power of books, this is a brilliantly woven novel about loving, reading, writing, grieving, and finding the strength to take a leap.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Lottie's writing is flawless...a beautifully interwoven story filled with much depth. Readers of all ages will find themselves swept away, right along with Lottie, until the very last page." (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA)) "A truly captivating tale about grief and the affirming power of self-examination." (Booklist) "A charming and sophisticated

take on handling grief with a mystical twist ending that is sure to engage teens nostalgic for the magic of reading Harry Potter or Tuck Everlasting for the first time. *—* (Kirkus Reviews) Praise for *The Lost & Found*: *—* “A rich, romantic story about two thoughtful teenagers on a quest for meaning.” *—* (Publishers Weekly) *—* “A beautiful exploration of loss” *—* | Quirky, endearing, and believable characters propel a narrative that pulls readers in with every mile of the road trip. An emotional journey that *—* „,çs well worth the ride. *—* (School Library Journal) *—* “Characters readers can believe in and care about.” *—* (Kirkus Reviews) *—* “THE LOST AND FOUND has so many of the things I love” *—* • friendship, romance, roadtrips, lots of breakfast sandwiches, and even a little bit of magic. Leno balances humor and sadness beautifully and the relationships all feel warm and true. *—* (Michelle Falkoff, author of *Playlist for the Dead* and *Pushing Perfect*) *—* “The characters and the road trip alone are a winning combination. The premise is where the magic happens.” *—* (Adi Alsaid, author of *Let’s Get Lost* and *Never Always Sometimes*) Praise for *The Half Life of Molly Pierce*: *—* “Introduces a fierce new presence.” *—* (Publishers Weekly (starred review)) *—* “A fascinating debut . . . something original indeed. Readers will absolutely need to know the end of this unique inward-facing mystery.” *—* (Booklist) *—* “A fast-moving thriller” *—* | relentless. *—* (Kirkus Reviews) *—* “The race to uncover Molly” *—* „,çs truth will keep readers turning pages.” *—* (School Library Journal) *—* “5 out of 5 bright, beautiful stars.” *—* (TeenReads.com) *—* “A moving, expertly wrought story that will keep surprising you past the last page.” *—* (Bennett Madison, author of *September Girls*) *—* “A smart, seductive page-turner, deeply felt and full of surprises.” *—* (Madeleine George, author of *The Difference Between You and Me*)

Katrina Leno grew up in Connecticut and spent her childhood summers by the shore in Massachusetts, where *The Half Life of Molly Pierce* takes place. Katrina was first published at the age of sixteen in the *Connecticut Review* and now holds an MFA in creative writing. This is her first novel.

I HAVE SO MANY EMOTIONS RIGHT NOW. This book was so amazing and hit me so close to home. Much like Lottie, I was close to my grandmother the same way she was with her aunt. All of her emotions and grief I felt deeply while reading this and there were parts that really gut punched me at the most random times. This book made me cry. I rarely cry over books and I choked up quite a few times and kinda lost it at the end. SO MANY EMOTIONS. The characters were all so

wonderful. I really love the way that Katrina Leno writes siblings and best friends. I also loved the parents in this book A LOT. Abe was my favorite & I wish that I had a brother like him. The whole Alvin Hatter book series was perfection. To be honest I am NOT a fan of the "book within a book" type of books (I loved Fangirl but hated the Simon parts and won't read Carry On. There have also been other books that I have skipped or dropped because of the book within a book parts) but it worked SO WELL in this book. The sections that were from the Alvin books actually made me yearn for a Harry Potter reread. But the best thing about the Alvin books is that they AREN'T Harry Potter specifically. They are Narnia, they are Percy Jackson, they are A Wrinkle in Time, they are The Golden Compass. Alvin Hatter is the stand in for your favorite childhood books paying homage to them all. And that is what I loved so much about them. (Yes Aunt Helen is totally the JKR of this world). This book is surprising too and if you're a close reader you'll be able to figure out the magic. I was SO PLEASED with the ending and with the clues and with Aunt Helen's big secret. I was so happy with the choices Lottie made too. There is also A TON of diversity in this book that is reflective of the world around us. I really love how naturally Katrina writes diverse characters without it feeling like she just forced them in for diversity's sake. It feels very REAL and authentic. I feel like this book was meant for me.

~*~ "Books can make you live a thousand different lifetimes, a thousand different lives. Books can make you immortal." ~*~ Everything At Once is a beautifully moving story of grief and finding happiness when you feel like there is none left. Following letters from her recently passed aunt, Lottie Reeves grows in courage and boldness in this fun and engaging contemporary with a bonus scavenger hunt feel! Things I Liked: Lottie and her family are charming and create a warm atmosphere that easily invites you into the story. Aunt Helen's letters are familiar and comforting. They further this wonderful sense of family in the story. I also LOVED the hints of magic in the story and the whimsiness it added. It really elevated the story and made the entire story a grand event, which I'm sure Aunt Helen would have appreciated. There was really excellent pacing in the story. Often when we have a character who is reading letters from someone, we're begging them to hurry up and ~*~ "keep reading, you ~*~ you'll get your answers," ~*~ but here, Lottie doesn't dwell on the letters, or let them hold her back. Yes, she ~*~ you'll reflect on them, but they really serve to move the story and her development forward. Things I Didn't Like: I had a few clarity issues in the story. It took me forever to figure out who was the older sibling and who was the younger sibling between Abe and Lottie. A minor detail, but it was a little annoying for me personally. I also must

have spaced, because it took me a while to realize they were in New England. I'm also a little confused about why Sam reached out to Lottie, was it just because of her relationship to Aunt Helen, or something else? This was a super fun summer read, that packed a lot of emotion into a great discovery story. The characters and family shines, captivating you and drawing you into their world as they come to terms with a recent tragedy. You really connect with them and Aunt Helen as we follow these little adventures she left for Lottie. Everything All At Once is an emotional adventure that feels both familiar and magical. I received a copy of the book from HarperTeen via Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

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