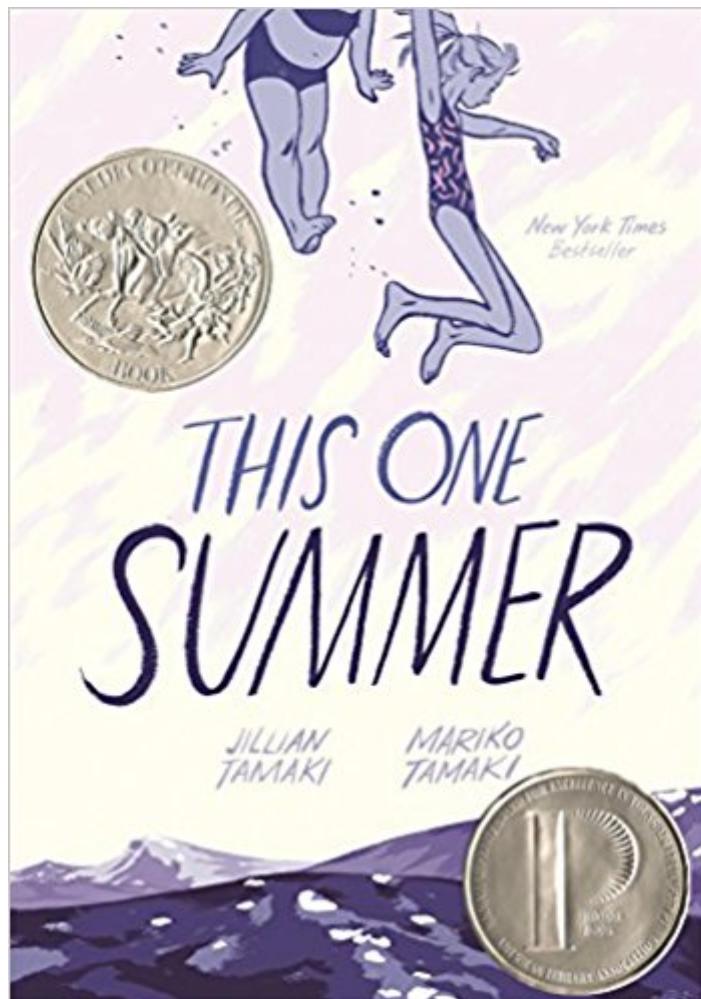


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This One Summer



Synopsis

A New York Times bestsellerA 2015 Caldecott Honor BookA 2015 Michael L. Printz Honor BookAn Eisner Award WinnerEvery summer, Rose goes with her mom and dad to a lake house in Awago Beach. It's their getaway, their refuge. Rosie's friend Windy is always there, too, like the little sister she never had. But this summer is different. Rose's mom and dad won't stop fighting, and when Rose and Windy seek a distraction from the drama, they find themselves with a whole new set of problems. One of the local teens - just a couple of years older than Rose and Windy - is caught up in something bad... Something life threatening. It's a summer of secrets, and sorrow, and growing up, and it's a good thing Rose and Windy have each other. This One Summer is a tremendously exciting new teen graphic novel from two creators with true literary clout. Cousins Mariko and Jillian Tamaki, the team behind Skim, have collaborated on this gorgeous, heartbreakingly, and ultimately hopeful story about a girl on the cusp of childhood - a story of renewal and revelation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up • Every summer, Rose and her parents vacation at a lakeside cottage. The rest of the world fades away as Rose reunites with her friend Windy and delves into leisurely games of MASH, swimming, and the joy of digging giant holes in the sand • but this summer is different. Rose is on the cusp of adolescence; she's not ready to leave childhood behind but is fascinated by the drama of the local teens who are only a few years older, yet a universe apart in terms of experience. They drink, they smoke, they swear. As Rose and Windy dip their toes into the mysterious waters of teen life by experimenting with new vocabulary ("sluts!") and renting horror

movies, her parents struggle with their own tensions that seem incomprehensible to Rose. Layers of story unfurl gradually as the narrative falls into the dreamlike rhythm of summer. Slice-of-life scenes are gracefully juxtaposed with a complex exploration of the fragile family dynamic after loss and Rose's ambivalence toward growing up. The mood throughout is thoughtful, quiet, almost meditative. The muted tones of the monochromatic blue-on-white illustrations are perfectly suited to the contemplative timbre, and the writing and images deserve multiple reads to absorb their subtleties. This captivating graphic novel presents a fully realized picture of a particular time in a young girl's life, an in-between summer filled with yearning and a sense of ephemerality. The story resolves with imperfect hope and will linger in readers' mind through changing seasons. •Allison Tran, Mission Viejo Library, CA --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Starred Review Mariko and Jillian Tamaki earned critical acclaim for *Skim* (2008), and they return here with another coming-of-age tale about the awkward transition from carefree childhood to jaded, self-conscious young adulthood. Rose and her parents spend every summer at their lakeside cabin in Awago, right down the path from Rose's best friend, Windy, and her family. They spend lazy days collecting rocks on the beach, riding bikes, swimming, and having barbecues. But this summer, Rose's parents are constantly fighting, and her mother seems resentful and sad. In that unspoken way kids pick up on their parents' hardships, Rose starts lashing out at Windy and grasping at what she thinks of as adulthood—turning up her nose at silliness (at which Windy excels), watching gory horror movies, reading fashion magazines, and joining in the bullying of a local teenage girl who finds herself in a tough spot. Jillian Tamaki's tender illustrations, all rendered in a deep purley blue, depict roiling water, midnight skies, Windy's frenetic sugar highs, and Rose's mostly aloof but often poignantly distressed facial expressions with equal aplomb. With a light touch, the Tamakis capture the struggle of growing up in a patchwork of summer moments that lead to a conclusion notably absent of lessons. Wistful, touching, and perfectly bittersweet. Grades 8-11. --Sarah Hunter --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

The artwork in "This One Summer" reaches out and pulls the reader into the story. It is a very sad but well told tale. I have only one caution. The age range is 12-18. The subject matter is such that it may not be appropriate for some 12 year olds: 1) references to porn, oral sex, and blow jobs and 2) language. You will have to decide if this is appropriate for your child. My older child can deal with it, but my younger one (still within suggested age range) wanted nothing to do with it. I was actually

surprised at how difficult the story was. There was hope and joy, but so much sadness. The cover artwork is so joyful that I didn't expect it to be quite so heavy. I know it hinted at issues, but I was still not prepared.

Excellent book, it captures the strange fleeting feelings from adolescence. The feeling of looking far into the future and realizing that you will soon be dealing with the problems that your older friends and relatives deal with. Finding out that your parents can feel just as powerless and angry as you can. The excitement of the first time watching horror movies and wondering what real gore looks like. The nervous sensation of finding out what sex and relationships are all about and what they mean to you.

I first encountered this piece of work while browsing the Comics and Cartoons web board on 4chan, where it was being "storytimed," which basically meant someone was uploading each page in every post for others to view for free. I am a huge fan of independent comics that take on more serious, real-life themes and subject matter, so I gave it a read. I was instantly hooked and, unfortunately, the thread died when the person posting the images had to leave and the thread was eventually pruned (because threads are not permanent on that website). It was 2/3 of the way through, but what was I to do? Purchase it on , of course. The product descriptions by different authors describe it well enough, albeit in the fashion that a college student adds words they pull from a thesaurus to increase their word count. This One Summer does well to capture the feeling that many preteens have where they are no longer children, but not quite teenagers, stuck in a limbo between childish endeavors and the more mature, adult world that they wish to delve into. It is also somewhat subtle and understanding of children that experience a rough spot in their parent's relationship - as someone whose parents got divorced, I feel that the author captured the odd and unspoken complications very well, which really just foreshadows the issues experienced by the teenagers they begin to take interest in. The book itself is well-made and can survive the abuse of a steel-gripped monster like me who clings to the thing like a life preserver, and my rough page turning did not result in any tearing. Although other reviewers, professional and amateur, praise the art style and dream-like flow of the book, I feel as though this is overdone to some degree. The art is beautiful and there is great attention to detail, but I prefer solid transitions, and find them lacking these days. I have no freaking clue how this got the Caldecott Medal, though. Putting aside all of the mature content that more prudish parents would object to, there are many themes and topics that will go over the heads of most pre-high school children. Considering that it has an experiential aspect to it

by capturing that awkward transition between child and teenager which I mentioned above, people who haven't gone through that probably won't get it. I don't even care if my hypothetical children see the word slut and learn about the sexy times from this book, I would not give it to them because it's too advanced.

The art in this comic is amazing and the writing is great. I'm a fan of YA novels and coming of age, this was realistic (My So Called Life awkwardness, too) and the friendship is adorable and refreshing. I really recommend this for teen girls, people who are into graphic novels about real life or artists who appreciate good life drawing. Tamaki's grasp of the human form is really natural, fluid and dynamic in this book.

The Tamaki cousins have easily become one of my favorite creative teams. The book itself came fresh and new with no damage, but constructed in a way that I wouldn't mind small wears to its build. It has a thick Paperback cover in a smooth, matte finish, which feels stable and soft in hand. This is a good touch in comfort for long reads, but makes it that much easier to not put it down and read it all in one go! The paper choice is also matte, making sure that it doesn't distract from the illustrations at all, and helps to keep the tone of the story. Aside from physical aspects, the story is so well told and the illustrative style complements its themes, setting, and mood so fittingly. I highly recommend this to anyone looking for something new, or current fans considering a good read or copy.

I heard about this book from a friend who tolerable her hometown school's library pulled it from their shelves. Apparently, some rating scale had it listed at a second grade reading level (which, for comprehension, I could see). I had to see what the fuss was about. I agree: not appropriate for second graders, but would be fine for the 12-18 year olds the publisher says it is for. In the long run, this was a great coming of age story for a young girl. I would recommend it to anyone, even adults wishing to relive the turmoil of those days.

A story that embodies the annual summer vacation at the lake, combined with an accurate example of the beginning of puberty. Easy ready, but identifiable for those who have passed that stage of awkwardness. Definite forces to recall your own puberty years and chuckle about them. I am not saying this is a comedic book; there are serious themes that occur.

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