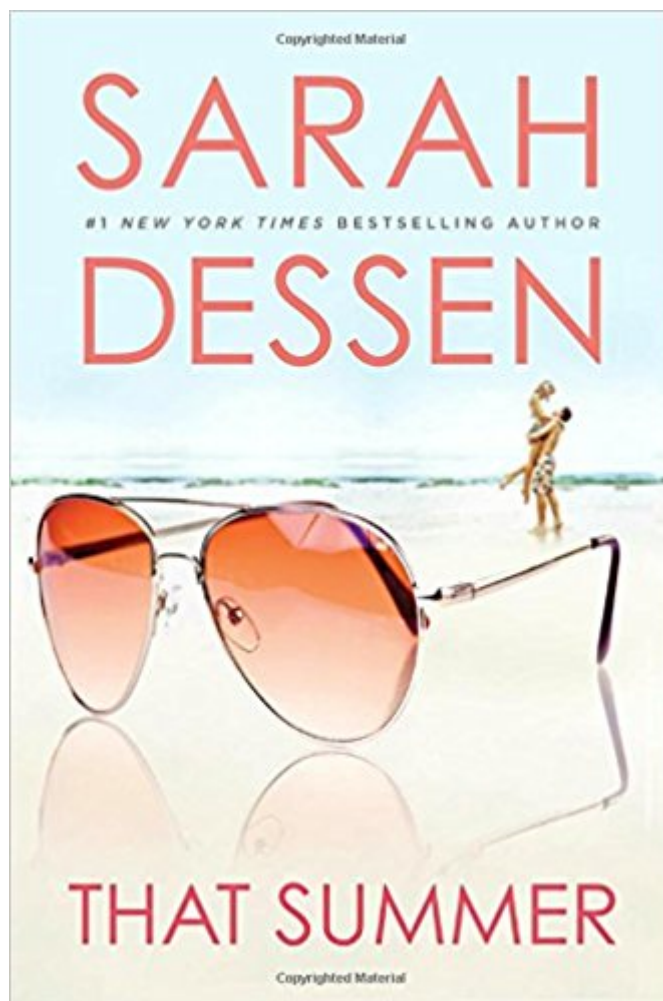


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# That Summer



## Synopsis

From the award-winning and New York Times bestselling author of *Once and for All* The more things change. . . . As far as Haven is concerned, there's just too much going on. Everything is changing, and she's not sure where she fits in. Then her sister's old boyfriend shows up, sparking memories of the summer when they were all happy and everything was perfect. . . . But along the way, Haven realizes that sometimes change is a good thing. • "Unforgettable" • Publishers Weekly, starred review Sarah Dessen is the winner of the Margaret A. Edwards Award for her contributions to YA literature, as well as the Romantic Times Career Achievement Award. Books by Sarah Dessen: *That Summer* *Someone Like You* *Keeping the Moon* *Dreamland* *This Lullaby* *The Truth About Forever* *Just Listen* *Lock and Key* *Along for the Ride* *What Happened to Goodbye* *The Moon and More* *Saint Anything* *Once and for All*

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1020 (What's this?)

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Speak; 11th printing edition (May 11, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142401722

ISBN-13: 978-0142401729

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 186 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #211,511 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > Stepfamilies #43 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > Marriage & Divorce #53 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Stepfamilies

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

As her parents divorce and her sister gets married, teenage Haven finds herself out of place. PW noted in a starred review, "Dessen's combination of unforgettable characters and unexpected events generates hilarity as well as warmth." Ages 10-14. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 7-9? That Summer could refer to the current one through which 15-year-old Haven is suffering, or it could be the one a few years ago when everything seemed perfect. Nevertheless, both summers affect her and she is a different person at their conclusions. Dessen has cast her story with a group of forgettable characters who plod their way through a cliché-ridden coming-of-age novel with a lot of subplots. There is the long-suffering mother and her scatterbrained best friend. Then there is toupee-wearing Dad, who honks from the driveway on visitation nights. Add the boy-crazy best friend and the moody older sister who is planning her wedding and making everyone miserable. The most memorable character is Summer Lee, a remnant of that long ago season when everything was just right, who shows up at the precise moments he is needed and offers support to Haven. The setting is a suburb where all the houses look exactly the same (kind of like the characters). There is nothing seriously wrong with Haven's life, except that she doesn't fit in, physically or emotionally; she is six-feet tall and still growing. She is unwilling or unable to accept change in her life, and pines for the days when her parents seemed happy and she didn't fight with her sister and the sun always shone...Sigh. Still, Haven has a good sense of humor, and her insightful barbs about everything from shopping malls to TV-news readers add some depth to the story. ?Lucinda Lockwood, Thomas Haney Secondary School, Maple Ridge, BC Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This was the first book I read of Sarah Dessen, my ex-boyfriend gave me the movie tie in edition of *How to Deal* where it came *That Summer* and *Someone Like You*. After I finished reading it, I knew that Sarah Dessen was about to become one of my favorite authors. I want to believe that this specific story has a special meaning to everyone. For me is about changes. Haven is 15 years teenager who's life is being put upside down and in the moment Summer Lee, her older sister boyfriends, appears in her life and bringing her back to those times, when her parents were together, her sister was happier and she felt part of something. I think that once in our life we have to deal with a situation in our lives like that. I can relate with Haven, after I broke up with my ex-boyfriend I thought I would never be happy and for a long time nothing make sense, I thought that I was always were meant to be broken but in the end I realize that you have to pick up the weeds and keep the flowers and though I was happy at that point of my life that happier and merrier time would come for me.. You see what does Sarah Dessen books does to me? I can even apply it to my personal life. As I always say Dessen has a gift to convey emotions, and create characters that you can relate too, even though this is the shortest book of Sarah, I think is one of the must

honest and truthful novel she have even written . I can assure you that at some point you would relate with one character of the book, the plot is simple yes but very well thought and the end is very satisfying because she gives closure to the main character.Hope that this review was helpful, and my apologizes if I made it too personal but yet the book has a special meaning for me.

The relaxed and believable voice of the young female narrator in this novel for young adults is something that not just teens can enjoy. Her dry wit and thoughtful observations about the ups and downs of her simple life recently complicated by the impending marriage of her older sister allow readers to smile and understand the agony of being "second born," living in a home altered by divorce, and feeling like everyone around you is different. This is a realistic, often sadly humorous look at one girl's struggle with change -- something we can all relate to.

good read

Book was received in good condition. Sarah Dessen is a favorite in our high school library.

I didn't like that much this book, i didn't find there was a climax in the story and it was lacking excitement in it, something to want you keep reading. I would highly recommend Sarah Dessen's books just not this one, pick one of the other great books she has.

I can relate to the changes the character is going through as she's growing. It was honestly a great summer read for any teen.

I'm not going to pretend that the end was a surprise, yet once again Sara Dessen gave a fairly credible story with an underlying theme of how to get through teenage years

I love Sarah Dessen and all her books but I didn't really find an interest in this book. To be honest it wasn't the best, in my opinion and I truly love her books. Sorry

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