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# Before I Fall



## Synopsis

A bestselling summer read as heartbreaking as *The Lovely Bones* and as gripping as Jenny Downham's *Before I Die*. \*\*Now a major Netflix movie starring Zoey Deutch, Halston Sage, Logan Miller, Kian Lawley\*\*  
'Gossip Girl meets *Groundhog Day*' *Grazia*  
'Tender, funny and raw' *Marie Claire*  
'A clever, funny, insightful and utterly addictive novel' *Daily Mail*  
'Compelling and poignant, a truly memorable read' *Closer*  
They say 'live every day as if it's your last' - but you never actually think it's going to be. At least I didn't. The thing is, you don't get to know when it happens. You don't remember to tell your family that you love them or - in my case - remember to say goodbye to them at all. But what if, like me, you could live your last day over and over again? Could you make it perfect? If your whole life flashed before your eyes, would you have no regrets? Or are there some things you'd want to change...?'  
'This book will take your breath away' *She*  
'A beautifully written and outrageously weepy tale' *Daily Mirror* --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

I TORE THROUGH THIS ONE! Not kidding, picked it up Friday night, finished Saturday night. I loved this story, I was worried it'd be the typical teenage drama stuff but no, this is very complex and jaw-dropping. With every page I'd be more and more interested in what happens next. Plus! The ending, holy crap the ending had me in tears but also amazed and proud at the same time. A personal emotional roller coaster for me. 100% recommend!

Loved, loved, loved this book! Couldn't put it down! There are some great lessons to be learned here and also a beautifully written, captivating storyline. And for reference, I am a married, 35 year old mom of two. However, having said that, I NEED a sequel... Or a continuing novella... Short story... SOMETHING! The story's finish left me with a bit of whiplash at how quickly it just 'dropped off' and was over. I was so involved in Sam Kingston's world, so invested in her character and her personal growth and her ever-changing perspective of her life and the people in it (which is the mark of a great author, if you ask me) and then it was done in an instant with no wrap up. For me, this did not take away from the story... Even knowing the ending, I would definitely still have read the book. But I do want to see Sam and all her friends and family in a more 'settled' place... And then I would feel better about putting this book down and leaving Sam's world behind.

It takes you back to high school where the most important thing was to be popular and you didn't think about consequences. Who hasn't been mean to someone and the regrets you have in your life. Sometimes I was the mean girl and then there was my nemesis who made fun of me and made my life miserable. Either way everyone can relate to this book. But what I love about it is she got the chance to learn from her mistakes. She learned to accept people and understand them including herself. Very good writing. I loved it.

Sam has it all but on February 12 her charmed life turns out to be her last when she was in a horrific car accident except she wakes up day after day for 1 week so she can figure out the day and night of her death, and gets the chance to change things if she chooses to. I enjoyed this book, it shows a lot of heartbreaking details about how she ended up there and what she could do to fix past mistakes.

I purchased this book on my Kindle more than 5 and a half years ago. I know I read the first few pages, but I don't really remember why I didn't read it. I think maybe I was turned off by the attitudes of the characters in the beginning of the book. Then recently I heard they were making it into a movie, which compelled me to finally read it all the way through. Wow. I don't want to say much, but I will say that this book has given me a new appreciation for life. I'm glad I read it now, because I think I needed this book more now than at any other point in my life.

What an interesting premise. There are as many questions as mornings she wakes back up in her

own bed, some very deep and thoughtful. What would we do if we had to relive the same day over and over? Would we ultimately be the good we hadn't the first time around? Well done. I even had to see the movie after, and was pleasantly surprised there, too.

This novel is breathtaking! Absolutely perfect. I haven't been this emotionally wrapped up in a story in a very long time. The story in a nutshell: Groundhog Day for a popular and selfish teenage girl. On the first day, Sam dies. For the next six days, Sam replays her last day until she gets it right. The story sounds simple, and maybe kind of corny, but it isn't. I've been trying to put my finger on what makes good writing. What is it that makes one story pick me up and pull me in and then when it's over, I feel like I'm leaving a world behind--like I'll never be the same again? And other stories leave me feeling cold--flat, and dissatisfied. There's a certain indistinguishable essence in good story-telling. It's hard to define. However, I KNOW that part of it is a writer's ability to create multi-dimensional characters and dynamic relationships. There is no black and white in the real world. Everything, simply EVERY person, experience, place, relationship, lesson, ideal.... is made up of multiple hues and textures. When a writer can imbue that life and texture into her characters and plot....well, THAT is what makes good storytelling. Sam isn't nice. She's a shallow, self-centered teenager. But we find out that it's not that simple. She isn't uniformly the evil popular girl. She's just a girl that doesn't even realize how all of her actions affect others. She doesn't notice that her thoughtless, minute actions have consequences. It takes a dissection of herself, her relationships, the people around her for her to finally slow down and SEE herself honestly. What transpires is finely wrought, and altogether heart-wrenching. But the writing is never overly sappy or emotionally manipulative. The author has a light and honest touch. THIS is a story I want my teenage daughters to read. THIS is a story that is important.

What happens to everyone else? The build up to the end result made me push through, and I was disappointed at the last page. I understand the progression into discovering purpose and self-realization, but the whole story felt one-sided, and I couldn't get past it. Even in the end, Sam's only thinking of how each action corresponds to her own life. And that was probably Ms. Oliver's intent. It just fell flat for me. I needed resolution for everyone else. I wanted her friends to learn a lesson from tragedy. And I wanted closure for everyone close to Sam and even the secondaries that floated on her outskirts. In death, things rarely tie in neat little bows, but insight can be found in final goodbyes. That's not what I felt here.

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