



Before I Fall

By Lauren Oliver

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What if you had only one day to live? What would you do? Who would you kiss? And how far would you go to save your own life?

Samantha Kingston has it all: the world's most crush-worthy boyfriend, three amazing best friends, and first pick of everything at Thomas Jefferson High—from the best table in the cafeteria to the choicest parking spot. Friday, February 12, should be just another day in her charmed life.

Instead, it turns out to be her last.

Then she gets a second chance. Seven chances, in fact. Reliving her last day during one miraculous week, she will untangle the mystery surrounding her death—and discover the true value of everything she is in danger of losing.

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Before I Fall By Lauren Oliver Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #3811704 in Books
- Brand: Harper Collins
- Model: 9.7814231135e+012
- Published on: 2010-03-01
- Released on: 2010-03-02
- Format: Bargain Price
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x 1.45" w x 5.50" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 480 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

In this *Groundhog Day* meets *Mean Girls* teen hybrid, Sam Kingston is pretty, popular, and has a seemingly perfect boyfriend. But after a late-night party everything goes terribly wrong, and the life that she lived is gone forever. Or is it?

At the start of *Before I Fall*, Sam is self-consumed and oblivious about the impact of her actions on others. But as she repeatedly experiences slightly altered versions of the hours leading up to her death—and her relationships with friends, family, and formerly overlooked classmates bloom, end, or shift—it's impossible not to feel for the girl whose life ends too soon. Oliver's adept teen dialogue and lively prose make for a fast, page-turning story in which the reader is every bit as emotionally invested as Sam. --*Jessica Schein*

From School Library Journal

Grade 9 Up—Samantha Kingston has worked her way up the popularity ladder; now a senior, she and her three best friends rule their school. On Cupid Day, Sam expects to receive Valentine roses, to party with her friends, and to finally (maybe) have sex with her equally popular boyfriend. The last thing she expects is that she will die, but in the final moments of her life, as she hears "a horrible, screeching sound—metal on metal, glass shattering, a car folding in two," everything turns to nothing. Only, it is not the end for Sam. She wakes up to start the same day over again, and again; in fact, she relives it seven times. At first, being dead has its advantages, as she realizes that nothing worse can happen to her. She first conducts herself with reckless abandon, seducing her math teacher and smoking marijuana. It is difficult to feel pity for Sam; she is snobbish, obnoxious, a cheater, and just plain mean. However, her gradual and complete transformation is so convincing that when she finally puts others before herself in order to save another life, it is moving and cathartic. The deepening relationship between Sam and Kent, her childhood friend, is sensitively described and the most complex and compelling relationship in the story. Although somewhat predictable, the plot drives forward and teens will want to see where Sam's choices lead. Fans of Gabrielle Zevin's *Elsewhere* (Farrar, 2005) will enjoy this almost-afterlife imagining. —*Amy J. Chow, The Brearley School, New York City*

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Review

"Oliver, in a pitch-perfect teen voice, explores the power we have to affect the people around us in this intensely believable first novel...This is a compelling book with a powerful message and should not be missed." (ALA Booklist)

"Before I Fall is smart, complex, and heartbreakingly beautiful. Lauren Oliver has written an extraordinary debut novel about what it means to live—and die." (Carolyn Mackler, author of *Tangled* and *The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things*, a Printz Honor book)

"This story races forward, twisting in a new direction every few pages, its characters spinning my emotions from affection to frustration, anger to compassion. You'll have no choice but to tear through this book!" (Jay Asher, author of the New York Times bestseller *Thirteen Reasons Why*)

"Samantha's attempts to save her life and right the wrongs she has caused are precisely what will draw readers into this complex story and keep them turning pages until Sam succeeds in living her last day the

right way.” (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA) (starred review))

“Oliver’s debut novel is raw, emotional, and, at times, beautiful....readers will love Samantha best as she hurtles toward an end as brave as it is heartbreaking.” (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Donna Wood:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to know everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or perhaps goal; it means that book has different type. Some people experience enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. They may be reading whatever they get because their hobby is usually reading a book. What about the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, man feel need book after they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will need this Before I Fall.

Leigh Grayer:

The book Before I Fall gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You need to use to make your capable more increase. Book can to become your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem with the subject. If you can make looking at a book Before I Fall to be your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about a few or all subjects. You can know everything if you like open up and read a publication Before I Fall. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or other folks. So , how do you think about this reserve?

Paul Anderson:

Now a day folks who Living in the era where everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources within it can be true or not need people to be aware of each details they get. How many people to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help people out of this uncertainty Information particularly this Before I Fall book since this book offers you rich info and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

Sandra Byrom:

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book especially book entitled Before I Fall the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unknown for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a book then become one form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get prior to. The Before I Fall giving you one more experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful facts for your better life within this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind will probably be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this

extraordinary paying spare time activity?

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