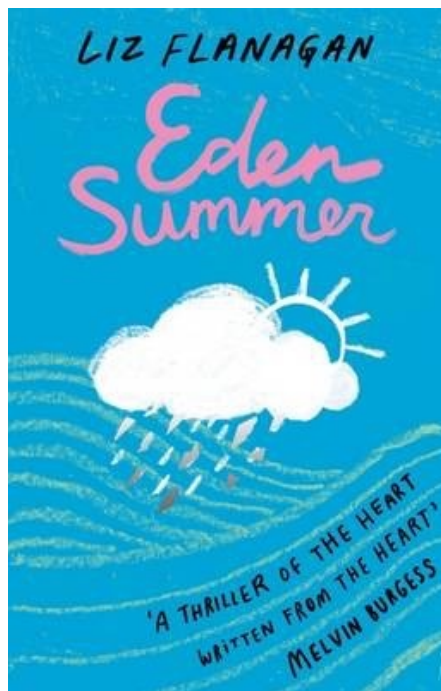




Eden Summer

Liz Flanagan

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IT STARTS like any other day for Jess – get up, draw on eyeliner, cover up tattoos and head to school. But soon it's clear this is no ordinary day, because Jess's best friend, Eden, isn't at school . . . she's gone missing.

Jess knows she must do everything in her power to find Eden before the unthinkable happens.

So Jess decides to retrace the summer she and Eden have just spent together. But looking back means digging up all their buried secrets, and she starts to question everything she thought Eden's summer had been about ...

A tense and thrilling journey through friendship, loss, betrayal and self discovery.

Eden Summer Details

Date : Published July 7th 2016 by David Fickling Books (first published June 7th 2016)

ISBN :

Author : Liz Flanagan

Format : Hardcover 280 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Mystery, Contemporary, Fiction, Realistic Fiction

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From Reader Review Eden Summer for online ebook

Emma Carroll says

A superb portrayal of a friendship torn apart by grief and trauma. The writing is pacy, poetic yet unflinching. When we find out what terrible event has befallen Jess, I honestly think that scene will stay with me forever. This is a hauntingly beautiful story full of pain, and ultimately, hope.

Esther says

Ik vond dit boek echt heel goed geschreven. Met een eind dat ik niet had verwacht. 4 sterren!

.???? mikky .???? says

This was such a gorgeous book, loved every single moment of this.

I could really get to know both of the characters in a deeper level, and I just loved that. I really connected with Jess the most, always doing things for other people putting them first, because that is exactly what I do all the time, and sometimes we forget that we need to put ourselves first sometimes.

Liz's words were captivating, enriching and just straight pure magic. I definitely recommend this book for anyone who needs a reminder just how strong friendship can be between two people!

Sarah Monreau says

Eine Geschichte, die nach hinten raus unglaublich gut wird! Nachdem Edens Schwester gestorben ist, ist Eden traurig. Mehr als das, sie kommt mit ihrem Leben so gar nicht mehr zurecht und verschwindet irgendwann spurlos. Ihre Freunde machen sich große Sorgen und haben das Gefühl, sie im Stich gelassen zu haben, obwohl sie so gut es ging, für sie da waren.

Am Anfang versprach das Buch noch nicht so viel. Allerdings wurde es aber der Hälfte richtig spannend und das letzte Drittel war dann wirklich unfassbar gut! In dem Buch steckt eine schöne, traurige und spannende Geschichte, darin steckt Gelächter, stecken Tränen und Gewalt, Angst, Einsamkeit, Verlust, Liebe, Freundschaft, Hoffnungslosigkeit und Hoffnung. Das Buch birgt mehr Emotionen und mehr Story, als man sich zu Anfang denkt und letztlich ist die Geschichte so wundervoll, weil sie so echt war. Sie war mitten aus dem Leben gegriffen, nichts war überzogen, jede Handlung war authentisch und die Charaktere wirklich sehr gut dargestellt. Von einem kleinen Jugendbuch katapultierte sich dieses Buch bei mir im Ranking nach oben. Es ist klasse! Und obwohl ich es sofort nach dem Lesen an einen anderen Blogger weitergeben wollte, werde ich es eventuell doch noch behalten. Einfach, weil es mir schwerfällt, mich davon zu trennen. Es war toll und hat mich beinahe zum Weinen gebracht!

jv poore says

Words are influential, able to constructively and destructively affect both the speaker and the audience. Final words feel eerily efficacious; especially when there is absolutely no expectation that they are indeed, last words. Vicious, venomous verbalizations can compound an already catastrophic event. In and of itself, crippling in its cruel randomness; devastating and gut-wrenching when choked with guilt.

A cloud of culpability completely cloaked the sun inside of Eden just as its rays tentatively began to reach out again. Regret remained whenever she recalled begging her bestie, Jess, to walk her to the bus stop in a dismal downpour months ago. Of course, she did not commit the heinous hate-crime, nor could she have stopped it; but that knowledge isn't enough to alleviate feeling at fault.

Being the best nurse-cheerleader-therapist-buddy that she could be, Eden was instrumental in Jess's healing and found that she was also helping herself move forward and focus on the important matters. After all, she is a normal teen girl and she did catch the eye of the admittedly adorable Liam that Jess was always talking about.

Liam and Jess, comfortable chums and coffee-shop coworkers, both love Eden with the all-encompassing, unconditional, wholly-heart-felt love of fierce friendship. The bond built from "...looking after Eden all summer." seems strong enough to support Eden indefinitely, until she disappears. Will their devotion, even when paired with resilient determination and dogged belief, be enough to find Eden?

"She'd gone inside herself, somewhere a long way down, and I didn't know how to follow."

Wonderfully woven with stunning, unique, yet complimentary, threads; Eden Summer is a familiar, but fresh fabric. Ms. Flanagan's finesse in tackling two terrifying topics results in a relatable, engaging read that is as enjoyable as it is significant. Fast-paced with flashbacks filling in details, the story quickly captivates and keeps hold, even after "the end".

This review was written for Buried Under Books by jv poore.

Hannah Pike says

'I would get her through this.

I would save Eden's life, like she did mine.'

I would give this book 5 stars.

-SPOILERS INCLUDED-

Eden Summer is a novel that is mainly based around friendship.

Jess's best friend Eden has gone missing and it's now up to Jess to try and find her.

As the novel unfolds, we find out more about the different characters involved, their pasts and secrets. Memories begin to re-surface in her mind, majority of them with Eden in it, like when she got her first tattoo.

Jess is interviewed by the police about Eden and it is revealed that since her sister died, Jess and her

boyfriend had to look after her and keep her going.

Until a party that occurred.

After Jess and Liam had finished at the cafe for the summer, they were all hanging out in their usual place when Eden decided she was going to start a party at her house and was going to invite some random strangers they only ran into a few minutes later, who slipped her drugs.

Trying to stop Eden from doing something stupid at the party, Jess decides to stay but Eden just gets worse and ends up dressing like her sister and sleeping with someone other than her boyfriend.

A couple of days after Jess and Eden go to Leeds for the day and Eden gets a tarot reading, freaks out and disappears, telling Jess that she needed some time alone and would see her at school.

After the police interview, Jess decides that she is going to take matters into her own hands by going back to all the places that they went together and search for answers.

In a flashback, Eden tells Liam about her past and we finally see what she's been hiding.

Back in the present, Leads emerge from the police saying that the text that Eden had sent her parents was some kind of goodbye or suicide note, which brings back memories of a time that Eden nearly tried to kill herself.

A revelation gets made that Eden's sister had been an adopted child.

Eden rings Jess and then hangs up, just as Jess and others are about to give up on hope.

Going to another place that Eden would have been connected to, she finds her lying motionless on the floor but Eden soon wakes up.

Eden had tried to commit suicide.

After Eden is home and safe, she starts to get grief counselling. Jess starts a relationship with Liam.

Wow.

I couldn't put this book down.

I was skeptical at first, but glad that I carried on reading.

Kirsty says

I thought this book was really awesome. It is a perfect example of what I want from good a UKYA novel

I loved the characters because they felt so real. Their story made me feel like a teenager again in the way it just captured that essence of being young and confused and angry. I thought how it did pain grief and suffering was really poignant.

I loved how the story kept me guessing throughout as you start to work out both what happened in the recent past but also where it is that Eden might be. It was effortless to read. This is a good thing. I hate novels that feel like a real slog to get through. I want my books to be a pleasure to read. This book was an utter pleasure as the writing flowed beautifully meaning I zoomed through in one sitting because I didn't want to put it down.

All in all a perfect example of the brilliance of UKYA. I'll be very impatiently waiting for Liz's next book.

Marianne Donovan says

"Eden Summer" by Liz Flanagan is an English YA book about two high school best friends who have both suffered a great personal tragedy and how they have spent their last summer dealing or not dealing with it, and the cost to their friendship. When Jess goes to school only to learn that her bestie, out of control and depressed Eden, has gone missing. As Jess worries and searches for Eden, she relives flashbacks of the past year to slowly uncover the truth of the guilt that has been destroying Eden. Quick ready read. Has some mature subject matters, but they are handled in such a way that the book stays a YA book that I feel comfortable passing on.

Sharon says

Although there are two emotionally charged story lines included in this book, Eden Summer did not move me as much as I expected. Part of the reason was that Eden herself was not very likeable, but it was also because the author took so much time to get to the heart of the matter. Between the time shifts and the exhaustively slow reveal, I lost interest in both of the backstories. In a genre full of books about pain, violence, and even hope for the future, Eden Summer just does not stand out.

Von.Wörtern.gefesselt says

Ich mochte die Geschichte und die vielen Konflikte. Toller Schreibstil

Danielle (Life of a Literary Nerd) says

This is going to be pretty short, because unfortunately this was a bit of a let down. I was expecting deep emotional pain, an intriguing mystery, and a story of friendship and discovery. Unfortunately, everything got lost in unlikable characters and underdeveloped plot points.

Things I Liked :

Eden Summer is an **emotionally packed** story of grief, loss, friendship, and guilt. The emotions are there and genuine, if dramatized, but I just couldn't connect with any of the characters so I didn't really buy the emotions.

Things I Didn't Like :

I thought that **Eden** was pretty unlikable. I understand that she is dealing with a lot emotionally after her sister's death, but even before that she wasn't that nice of a person. I didn't care about her, so I never cared that she was missing - which was the entire point of the story.

I thought it took way **too long** to figure out the trauma that happened to Jess over the summer, and once we did figure it out I thought it was really stupid and unbelievable. I just didn't buy it.

One of my least favorite things, especially in YA is **cheating**. It's always unnecessary and makes the characters unlikeable.

While this wasn't really for me, I feel like a lot of people will really enjoy this story, so I would still recommend it. I skimmed a fair bit in the middle, but the end did have more emotional pull which was nice. This just didn't really do it for me.

I received a copy of the book from the publisher via Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

Jessica says

I'm honestly surprised I finished this book because man did it suck. I kept hoping it'd pick up and get better, but no such luck.

Marta Dulce ?i Gavina says

The book starts - deceptively - as a seemingly banal story about a missing girl with teenage characters representing rather types than real individual personalities and changes gradually into a story with (mild but still) thriller undertones about real people, real teenage girls dealing with various kinds of trauma. I was happily disappointed: it delivers much more than it shows in the first chapter and even the love triangle was written quite nicely, realistically and it did not make me want to pull my hair off!

Tintenwelten says

Eden und Jess sind seit Jahren die besten Freundinnen, sie gehen zusammen durch dick und dünn. Doch Eden ist gestern Abend nicht nach Hause gekommen. Die Suche beginnt. Ist Eden abgehauen? Wurde sie Opfer eines Gewaltverbrechens? Hat ihr Freund Liam etwas damit zu oder gar ihr Exfreund? Was führte zu ihrem Verschwinden?

Jess gibt die Hoffnung nicht auf, sie will Eden unbedingt finden. Nachdem Eden ihre Schwester Iona verloren hat und dadurch in ein schwarzes Loch gefallen ist, hat Jess sich geschworen, dass sie ihr durch diese schwere Zeit helfen wird. Denn auch Jess hat etwas sehr schlimmes erlebt und auch Eden war immer für sie da und hat ihr damit das Leben gerettet.

Bei ihrer Suche nach der Freundin besucht Jess Orte, die den beiden Mädchen wichtig sind. Durch Flashbacks erfährt der Leser nach und nach, wie es dazu kam, dass Jess sich vor Berührungen und Menschenmengen fürchtet, wie Eden ihre Schwester verloren hat und was insgesamt zur heutigen Situation geführt hat.

Die Beschreibung von Eden lässt sie nicht unbedingt sympathisch wirken. Man kann sie am ehesten als manisch-depressiv bezeichnen. Mal ist sie himmelhoch jauchzend, mal zu Tode betrübt. Sie ist launisch, eifersüchtig und oft wohl nicht sehr nett. In diesem Sommer ist sie sehr ich-bezogen, verhält sich aber auch oft eher selbst zerstörerisch. Für Jess und auch Liam ist es daher kein leichter Sommer gewesen. Eden steht für beide immer an erster Stelle. In ihrer Sorge um Eden sind sich die beiden näher gekommen.

Emotional kann man sich sehr gut in Jess hinein fühlen. Auch sie ist immer wieder hin und her gerissen zwischen Hoffnung, Verzweiflung, Sorge und Schuldgefühlen. Dabei wirkt sie äußerst authentisch. Obwohl

Eden einem selber möglicherweise nicht sympathisch ist, so spürt man doch deutlich, wie wichtig sie für Jess ist.

Besonders erwähnen möchte ich an dieser Stelle auch, dass die Handlung einen einzigen Tag umfasst und zwar den Tag, an dem Eden verschwindet. Atmosphärisch gesehen ist das Buch eher bedrückend, es herrscht ständig eine ängstliche und bedrohliche Stimmung. Das liegt vor allem daran, dass die Geschichte komplett aus Jess Perspektive geschrieben wurde und man daher die ganze Zeit live dabei ist.

Es ist eine Geschichte über Liebe, Freundschaft, Trauer und Eifersucht, die berührt - gut umgesetzt und in Szene gesetzt.

Odette Knappers says

Dit is eigenlijk een kruising tussen een ya thriller en een contemporary en dat vind ik erg leuk! Het is een thriller in de trant van dat het boek draait om wat er gebeurt is, nu maar ook gebeurtenissen uit het verleden. En het is een contemporary omdat vriendschap een grote rol in dit boek speelt, en dat is iets dat ik erg tof vind.

Wat ik zelf wat minder leuk vond aan dit boek is dat veel van de spanning voor mij kunstmatig aanvoelde, omdat de schrijver iets achterhield voor de lezer en je dat als lezer merkte. Je weet bijv al heel snel dat het hoofdpersoonage afgelopen zomer iets heftigs is overkomen, maar je weet niet meteen wat. Dat is iets dat mij persoonlijk wat minder aanspreekt, maar het voordeel is dan weer dat een ontknoping ergens van ook in het verhaal past en puzzelstukjes op hun plek laat vallen, ipv dat de gebeurtenis uit de lucht komt vallen.

Als je normaal wel thrillers leest maar nooit contemporary, of andersom, en je hebt wel zin om iets uit je comfortzone te stappen maar je vind het eigenlijk toch eng, dan is dit echt een ideaal boek voor je, omdat het het beste van twee werelden heeft en dus nog elementen heeft die je al kent uit andere boeken.

Nooit gedacht om deze combinatie te maken, maar voor liefhebbers van Mel Wallis de Vries én Sarah Dessen :)
