

[PDF] Things I Can't Forget (Hundred Oaks)

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Books Details:

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Description:

From School Library Journal Gr 9 Up-Though devoutly religious, Kate recently compromised her deeply held beliefs to help her best friend, Emily, obtain an abortion-a decision that has strained the girls' friendship and sent Kate reeling. When the teen becomes a camp counselor the summer before starting college, she questions her identity even further. Romance blossoms between Kate and a fellow counselor, Matt, and she befriends Parker, a girl whom Kate used to look down upon for her wild and promiscuous lifestyle. Subsequently, she begins to reevaluate her judgmental attitudes. Though it's primarily her relationships with others that result in Kate's growth from an uptight, narrow-minded wallflower to a self-assured young woman, characterization is sketchy, and

characters are largely one-note (the gorgeous, confident love interest; her lost and confused best friend; her strict, unsympathetic boss). Still, Kenneally's spare, straightforward prose, combined with a heavy dose of romance, makes it an accessible novel that should appeal even to reluctant readers. Kate's habit of questions to herself as she encounters conflicts ("But what if I would rather have a relationship with God than friendships with people who don't believe in him like I do?") imbues her with an uncertainty that will resonate with teens. Adolescents will also relate to her simultaneous feelings of longing and guilt as she copes with her burgeoning sexuality. Despite the flaws, teenagers will find this coming-of-age story both entertaining and poignant.-Mahnaz Dar, Library Journal

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Review "Miranda Kenneally's best book yet. " - **Shelf Awareness for Readers**

"Like Diane Court in *Say Anything*, when sheltered, high-achieving junior Kate dives into a social life for the first time, she experiences the conflict and messiness of life at the same time she experiences her first love." - **Justine magazine**

"Talented Kenneally is unafraid to tackle challenging topics. Her heroine this go-round is a devout Christian struggling with her faith. Kate is an interesting blend of sweet, confused and judgmental, which doesn't always make her likable. However, she's incredibly realistic. A worthy read with a dreamy male lead." - **RT Book Reviews**

"An up-and-coming young-adult novelist." - **The Washington Post**

"Kate's sheltered worldview is well-drawn, and the hesitant first steps on her spiritual journey are handled sensitively . . . Kate's growth will keep readers, Christian or otherwise, reading." - **Kirkus**

"Kenneally's spare, straightforward prose, combined with a heavy dose of romance, makes it an accessible novel that should appeal even to reluctant readers. . . Teenagers will find this coming-of-age story both entertaining and poignant." - **School Library Journal**

"Throughout the novel, Kenneally uses a light touch, addressing teenage pregnancy, sexuality, and alcohol use without being pedantic. Wisdom from Kate's father, "Your truth isn't everybody else's truth," provides unanticipated guidance in this compassionate and nuanced exploration of friendship, love, and maturing religious understanding." - **Publishers Weekly**

"Simply put, if you love contemporary YA romance that has a mix serious issues, drama and steamy scenes then you are going to devour *Things I Can't Forget*. It is a great addition to the *Hundred Oaks* series." - **Michelle and Leslie's Book Picks**

"Kenneally's books have quickly become must-reads," - **VOYA**

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