Even When You Lie to Me



By Jessica Alcott



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A steamy debut about a love off limits, and lines destined to be crossed—with the wit of John Green and the heart of Sarah Dessen.

Tom Drummond is the perfect guy. He reads the classics. He tells the wittiest jokes. Best of all, he actually likes Charlie. And for a girl used to being caught in the shadow of her best friend, Drummond's spotlight warms Charlie in a way she never thought possible. But as their relationship grows closer, there's one detail that remains impossible to forget: Mr. Drummond is her teacher.

"Jessica Alcott's writing is like a very personal glimpse into your own adolescent diary. Raw, uncomfortable, but still often hilarious." –Harried Reuter Hapgood, author of *The Square Root of Summer*

"The witty repartee among characters is reminiscent of the dialogue in John Green's novels or a *Gilmore Girls* episode." –*School Library Journal*

"Perfect for fans of Sarah Dessen." -Booklist

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 10 Up—Charlie is dreading her senior year. Introverted, not traditionally pretty, and a bit of a bookworm, she has her sights set on life after high school. In fact, Charlie has applied early decision to Oberlin College. Her ever-loyal best friend, Lila, has become popular overnight, throwing Charlie's social inadequacies into sharper contrast. Mr. Drummond, her new English teacher, is the only bright spot in her life. He's young, super-friendly, and seems to get her. When Charlie's Type-A mother insists that she participate in an extracurricular activity, the girl joins the school newspaper, newly revived by Mr. Drummond. Charlie develops an intense and all-consuming crush on him, fueled by their time working on the newspaper together and discussing books in and out of class. Mr. Drummond is friendly to everyone, but Charlie senses that there is something different about his feelings for her. Alcott pushes the boundaries in this exploration of a taboo student-teacher relationship. Charlie's sexual thoughts and desires are candidly and honestly depicted. Complex emotional content is handled tactfully and sensitively. Additionally, all of Alcott's characters are well developed, from Charlie's parents to the Indian American twins in her English class, who befriend her. All have distinct personalities and motivations, adding to the realistic atmosphere the author has created. The witty repartee among characters is reminiscent of the dialogue in John Green's novels or a Gilmore Girls episode—although slightly improbable at times, it never fails to entertain. VERDICT A cutting-edge exploration of a thorny topic, this is a wonderful debut novel.-Ragan O'Malley, Saint Ann's School, Brooklyn, NY

About the Author

Jessica Alcott lives with her husband and their two cats. She graduated from Bennington College and has worked at a children's publisher in the UK. *Even When You Lie to Me* is her first novel. You can visit Jessica online at jessicaalcott.com, on Twitter at @daisyhellcakes, and on Facebook.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Chad Brown:

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