



Other Words for Love

By Lorraine Zago Rosenthal

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It's the mid-1980s, and Ari Mitchell feels invisible at her Brooklyn high school. Her hair is too flat, her style too preppy, and her personality too quiet. And outside school, Ari feels outshined by her beautiful, confident best friend, Summer. Their friendship is as complex and confusing as Ari's relationship with her troubled older sister, Evelyn, a former teenage mom whose handsome firefighter husband fills Ari's head with guilty fantasies.

When an unexpected inheritance enables Ari to transfer to an elite Manhattan prep school, she makes a wealthy new friend, Leigh. Leigh introduces Ari to the glamorous side of New York--and to her gorgeous cousin, Blake. Ari doesn't think she stands a chance, but amazingly, Blake asks her out. As their romance heats up, they find themselves involved in an intense, consuming relationship. Ari's family worries that she is losing touch with the important things in life, like family, hard work, and planning for the future.

When misfortune befalls Blake's family, he pulls away, and Ari's world drains of color. As she struggles to get over the breakup, Ari must finally ask herself: were their feelings true love . . . or something else?

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

In this first novel, Rosenthal, like Judy Blume long before her, makes the case that first love need not be forever, nor is its demise the end of the world. Ari, a talented artist, is the focus of her mom's dreams in the wake of her older sister Evelyn's teen motherhood. When an inheritance comes, Ari's pushed into attending an upscale Manhattan prep school. That's where she meets Leigh, a rich girl whose cousins, Blake and Delsin, prove fascinating to the middle-class Brooklyn commuter. When love blooms between Ari and Blake, and jealousy drives Evelyn to put distance between the siblings, Ari's goals get rearranged. It's hard to tell at times where Rosenthal is placing the novel's main emphasis?mom-daughter dynamics, sisterly conflict, love gone bad, friendships altered?which dilutes some of the characters. Blake, for instance, is never more than a pretty, rich boy, and Ari's friendship with Leigh never comes to life. Still, readers who like preppy drama and are seeking something more compelling than the Gossip Girl series will seek this out. Grades 9-12. --Karen Cruze

Review

"This powerful exploration of loneliness and attachment...expertly captures both the euphoric passion of first love and the utter devastation it can sometimes leave behind..."

--*The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

"[Lorraine Zago Rosenthal's] prose avoids moralizing...the story honestly confronts the pain associated with coming of age and first heartbreak."

--*Publishers Weekly*

"The vivid 1980s setting adds depth to the story's complex layers of family dynamics, tumultuous friendships, first heartbreak, and recovery from it all." --*The Horn Book; Fall 2011*

"The 1980s finds Ari Mitchell trying to adjust to her new life at an elite private school in New York...This is a mature book that reads like a private diary...relatable and recognizable as a teen experience that is anything but childish." --*Children's Literature Comprehensive Database*

"Ari is a realistic and likeable character...Her life falls apart, and readers will be engaged and hoping Ari can work through the difficulty...the main character and her struggles with first love, friendship, and growing up are timeless and universal." --*Voya*

About the Author

LORRAINE ROSENTHAL was born and raised in New York City. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in education from the University of South Florida. She also earned a master's in English, with a concentration in American and British literature, from Northern Kentucky University. In addition to writing fiction, Lorraine enjoys reading, watching movies, and spending time with her husband. *Other Words for Love* is her first novel.

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Charles Barton:

Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information these days can get by anyone at everywhere. The information can be a know-how or any news even restricted. What people must be consider any time those information which is within the former life are difficult to be find than now's taking seriously which one is appropriate to believe or which one the particular resource are convinced. If you find the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen with you if you take Other Words for Love as your daily resource information.

Richard Pascual:

Reading a e-book tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world may share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. A great deal of author can inspire their reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the story that share in the guides. But also they write about advantage about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your young ones, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors in this world always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write to their book. One of them is this Other Words for Love.

Gordon Frederick:

Other Words for Love can be one of your basic books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort that will put every word into delight arrangement in writing Other Words for Love but doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be one of it. This great information can certainly drawn you into brand new stage of crucial imagining.

Rebecca Moreno:

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