



Falling Over Sideways

By Jordan Sonnenblick

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It's not easy being Claire. (Really.)

Claire's life is a joke . . . but she's not laughing. While her friends seem to be leaping forward, she's dancing in the same place. The mean girls at school are living up to their mean name, and there's a boy, Ryder, who's just as bad, if not worse. And at home, nobody's really listening to her -- if anything, they seem to be more in on the joke than she is.

Then into all of this (not-very-funny-to-Claire) comedy comes something intense and tragic -- while her dad is talking to her at the kitchen table, he falls over with a medical emergency. Suddenly the joke has become very serious -- and the only way Claire, her family, and her friends are going to get through it is if they can find a way to make it funny again.

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Falling Over Sideways By Jordan Sonnenblick Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 6–8—Claire Goldsmith has been living a relatively cursed life, at least in her opinion. Her dance friends have all moved up a level, but she's stayed the same. Eighth grade is nightmarish thanks to mean girls and an even meaner boy. At home, her parents and older brother aren't exactly sympathetic to her plight. But one morning Claire's life goes from bad to worse when her dad has a stroke. Now Claire has to deal with dance and middle school drama and the emotional trauma that comes from watching her once strong father deal with the aftermath of his medical condition. The protagonist is a realistic 13-year-old; her struggles with bullies and friends and her attempts to get out of her brother's shadow are relatable. However, while the novel centers on the ways a stroke can affect the dynamics of a family, the story does not go very deep. The writing is only surface level; readers are told more than shown. The plot seems to meander among Claire's life at school, her dancing, and her situation at home, but a balance is never quite met. **VERDICT** This novel may resonate with some readers but is more of a supplemental purchase.—Paige Garrison, Augusta Richmond County Library System, GA

Review

Praise for DRUMS, GIRLS, AND DANGEROUS PIE:

"A brave book . . . Jordan Sonnenblick carries it off with such charm and elan, you forget for a moment your heart is breaking." -- Frank McCourt, author of ANGELA'S ASHES

* "Sonnenblick shows that even in the midst of tragedy, life goes on, love can flower, and the one thing you can always change is yourself." -- BOOKLIST, starred review

"The reader falls in love with the brothers, laughing and crying by turns and rooting for both of them until it almost hurts." – KIRKUS REVIEWS

Praise for AFTER EVER AFTER:

* "As hilarious as it is tragic, and as honest as it is hopeful, don't confuse this book with inspirational reading. It's irresistible reading." – BOOKLIST, starred review

* "Sonnenblick's intimate first-person tale of survival is a solid stand-alone novel that will leave an emotional, uplifting imprint on readers." – SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL, starred review

"Told with Sonnenblick's trademark self-deprecating humor, this stand-alone tween narrative slots neatly into the space between the author's YA and J titles, sensitively dealing with issues of family, friendship and death in a way that will appeal to middle-grade students. Recommended for fans and new readers alike." – KIRKUS REVIEWS

About the Author

Jordan Sonnenblick is the author of the acclaimed teen novels *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie*, *Notes from the Midnight Driver*, and *Zen and the Art of Faking It*. In addition to being a writer, he's a middle-school English teacher and would never penalize one of his students for bringing an imaginary friend to school. Jordan lives in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, with his wife and their two children. If he's ever had an imaginary

friend, he's not telling! You can visit him on the Web at www.jordansonnenblick.com.

No Bio

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Corinna Edwards:

Book is written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can recognize everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading talent was fluently. A reserve Falling Over Sideways will make you to always be smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think that open or reading the book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they can be thought like that? Have you searching for best book or ideal book with you?

Dennis Rodriguez:

Nowadays reading books become more and more than want or need but also get a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book that improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want have more knowledge just go with education books but if you want experience happy read one using theme for entertaining including comic or novel. The actual Falling Over Sideways is kind of book which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Kathryn Granger:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the whole day to reading a guide. The book Falling Over Sideways it is very good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book provides high quality.

Michele Williams:

Many people spending their time frame by playing outside having friends, fun activity along with family or just watching TV all day long. You can have new activity to spend your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book really can hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, getting everywhere you want in your Smartphone. Like Falling Over Sideways which is keeping the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's view.

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