



Jessie McIntyre, 15, has it made. She's got the world's best boyfriend, great teammates, and a hockey coach she looks up to. But a bad decision at a party changes everything. Worse, some of the guys at school seem determined not to let her forget it.

Excerpt:

Jodi offers me her cup. "How about a sip of the water of life?"

"I'll have a coke," I say.

"Loosen up, Jessie Mac," she says. "Freakin' summer is right around the corner."

Mark scowls at me. What right does he have to approve or disapprove of everything I do?

On impulse, I grab Jodi's drink and guzzle it. Every last drop. It leaves a warm glow all the way down.

*"All right, Jessie!" Jordan holds up his hand for a high-five.
"What do you say?!" Greg holds up his as well.
I smack both their hands, ignoring the sensation of Mark's eyes scorching the back of my neck.
"Got any more?" I ask.*

Reviews

Ulrich gives young readers a superb novel with something to pique every interest.

- *CM Magazine*

The hockey plot is compelling throughout, and we never get any of those irritating, unrealistic dream-come-true moments so common in sports-dramas, both on the page and on the screen.

- *Catherine Egan, author of [Julia Vanishes](#)*

Face Off is a charming tale that will relate with many teens.

- *Midwest Book Review*

Teen girls who enjoy hockey will like this book. The author includes many other themes of interest to middle teens: teenage problems with alcohol, including binge drinking; self-mutilation (cutting); internet and school bullying; overcontrolling parents; teen violence; and having a parent who is gay.

- *Prairie Fire Review*

This well-paced and detailed book appeals to the reluctant reader. Canadian venues and language make this book appropriate for newer Canadians as well as solid pleasure reading.

- *Resources Links Review*