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A Study Guide for Sarah Dessen's "Just Listen" Gale, Cengage Learning A Study Guide for Sarah Dessen's "Just Listen", excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Novels for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Novels for Students for all of your research needs. **Just Listen** Penguin UK I'm Annabel. I'm the girl who has it all. Model looks, intelligence, a great social life. I'm one of the lucky ones. Aren't I? My 'best friend' Sophie is spreading rumours about me. My family is slowly falling apart. It's turning into a long, lonely summer, full of secrets and silence. But I've met this guy who won't let me hide away. He's one of those intense types, obsessed with music and totally unafraid of confrontation. He's determined to make me listen. Will I ever find the courage to tell him what really happened the night Sophie and I stopped being friends? Captivating, emotionally turbulent, unputdownable teenage fiction - the natural step up for older Cathy Cassidy fans. **Sarah Dessen** The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc Examines the life and accomplishments of the young adult author, detailing her early years, sources of inspiration, and interests outside of writing. --Publisher's description. **Dreamland** Penguin Love can be a very dangerous thing. After her sister left, Caitlin felt lost. Then she met Rogerson. When she's with him, nothing seems real. But what happens when being with Rogerson becomes a larger problem than being without him? "Another pitch-perfect offering from Dessen." —Booklist, starred review Also by Sarah Dessen: *Along for the Ride* *Just Listen* *Keeping the Moon* *Lock and Key* *The Moon and More* *Someone Like You* *That Summer* *This Lullaby* *The Truth About Forever* *What Happened to Goodbye* **Just Listen A Novel** Viking Books for Young Readers Isolated from friends who believe the worst because she has not been truthful with them, sixteen-year-old Annabel finds an ally in classmate Owen, whose honesty and passion for music help her to face and share what really happened at the end-of-the-year party that changed her life. **This Lullaby** Hachette UK Remy is a cynic when it comes to love. Let down by her absent musician dad and witness to her mother's four failed marriages, she doesn't intend ever to let anyone that close. So when Dexter comes crashing into her life, why is it suddenly so hard for Remy to follow her own rules? He's everything she hates: messy, disorganised, impulsive, and worst of all, a musician like her absent father... **The Summer I Turned Pretty** Simon and Schuster Belly spends the summer she turns sixteen at the beach just like every other summer of her life, but this time things are very different. **The Truth About Forever** Penguin UK The summer following her father's death, Macy plans to work at the library and wait for her brainy boyfriend to return from camp, but instead she goes to work at a catering business where she makes new friends and finally faces her grief **Once and for All** Penguin From Sarah Dessen, the beloved New York Times bestselling author of SAINT ANYTHING and JUST LISTEN, comes a new novel set in the world of wedding planning! Is it really better to have loved and lost? Louna's summer job is to help brides plan their perfect day, even though she stopped believing in happily-ever-after when her first love ended tragically. But charming girl-magnet Ambrose isn't about to be discouraged now that he's met the one he really wants. Maybe Louna's second chance is standing right in front of her. Sarah Dessen's many fans will adore this latest novel, a richly satisfying, enormously entertaining story with humor, romance, and an ending that is so much more than happily-ever-after. **The Moon and More** Penguin UK *The Moon and More* by Sarah Dessen is the perfect romantic YA novel. A gorgeous Summer read. Open the pages and fall in love . . . Emaline is spending her last summer before college in her home beach town of Colby. Everything is familiar - from working for her bossy sister Margo at the family rental company to Emaline's gorgeous (and regularly shirtless) childhood sweetheart, Luke. But when an out-of-town brash New York filmmaker, and her young assistant Theo, come to stay at one of the beach houses, everything Emaline thought she knew about herself changes. But can her heart let go of a life she's loved for so long? Praise for Sarah Dessen: 'Perfect' - Sunday Telegraph 'Unputdownable' - MIZZ 'A compelling story and beautifully written' - Time Out 'A poignant coming-of-age story' - The Big Issue Sarah Dessen is the author of seven stunning YA novels: *Just Listen*, *The Truth About Forever*, *Lock and Key*, *That Summer*, *Along for the Ride* and *The Moon and More*. She is a New York Times bestseller and is sold in over 27 different countries around the world. She lives in the countryside in North Carolina, USA, with her daughter, husband, some lizards and two very spoilt dogs - read her once and fall in love. Sarah-Land.com sarahdessen.com @sarahdessen **If He Had Been with Me** Sourcebooks, Inc. If he had been with me everything would have been different... I wasn't with Finn on that August night. But I should've been. It was raining, of course. And he and Sylvie were arguing as he drove down the slick road. No one ever says what they were arguing about. Other people think it's not important. They do not know there is another story. The story that lurks between the facts. What they do not know—the cause of the argument—is crucial. So let me tell you... **Apple and Rain** A&C Black When Apple's mother returns after eleven years of absence, Apple feels whole again. She will have an answer to her burning question - why did you go? And she will have someone who understands what it means to be a teenager - unlike Nana. But just like the stormy Christmas Eve when she left, her mother's homecoming is bitter sweet, and Apple wonders who is really looking after whom. It's only when Apple meets someone more lost than she is, that she begins to see things as they really are. Like a brilliant hybrid of Cathy Cassidy and Jacqueline Wilson, Sarah Crossan entices you into her world, then tells a moving, perceptive and beautifully crafted, Carnegie Shortlisted story which has the power to make you laugh and cry. Shortlisted for The CILIP Carnegie Medal in 2015. **Along for the Ride** Penguin UK Following her parents' bitter divorce, Auden has the chance to spend the summer with her dad and his new family in a charming beach town. There she meets Eli, and together they embark on parallel quests. **Just Listen** Penguin From the award-winning and New York Times bestselling author of *Once and for All* To find the truth you've got to be willing to hear it. When she's modeling, Annabel is the picture of perfection. But her real life is far from perfect. Fortunately, she's got Owen. He's intense, music-obsessed, and dedicated to always telling the truth. And most of all, he's determined to make Annabel happy. . . "This is young adult fiction at its best." —School Library Journal Sarah Dessen is the winner of the Margaret A. Edwards Award for her contributions to YA literature, as well as the Romantic Times Career Achievement Award. Books by Sarah Dessen: *That Summer* *Someone Like You* *Keeping the Moon* *Dreamland* *This Lullaby* *The Truth About Forever* *Just Listen* *Lock and Key* *Along for the Ride* *What Happened to Goodbye* *The Moon and More* *Saint Anything* *Once and for All* **The Truth about Forever** Penguin DESSEN/TRUTH ABOUT FOREVER **You Have A Match** Pan Macmillan From the beloved author of *Tweet Cute* comes *Emma* Lord's *You Have a Match*, a hilarious and heartfelt novel of romance, sisterhood, and friendship. When Abby signs up for a DNA service, it's mainly to support her friend and secret love interest, Leo. After all, she knows who she is already: avid photographer, injury-prone tree climber, best friend to Leo and Connie. When the DNA service reveals Abby has a secret sister, shimmery-haired Instagram star Savannah Tully, it's hard to believe they're from the same planet, never mind the same parents — especially considering Savannah, queen of green smoothies, is only a year and a half older than Abby herself. The logical course of action? Meet up at summer camp (obviously) and figure out why Abby's parents gave Savvy up for adoption. But there are complications: Savvy is a rigid rule-follower and total narc. Leo is the camp's co-chef, putting Abby's growing feelings for him on blast. And her parents have a secret that threatens to unravel everything. But part of life is showing up, leaning in, and learning to fit all your awkward pieces together. Because sometimes, the hardest things can also be the best ones. "A YA contemporary set at summer camp? Count us in." - BuzzFeed "Heartfelt and engaging, *You Have a Match* is a masterclass on love in all its forms." - Sophie Gonzales, author of *Only Mostly Devastated and Perfect on Paper* "A bright summer tale of connection and self-discovery." - Booklist "A cute, feel-good coming-of-age story." - Kirkus **In Other Lands** Small Beer Press Georgia Peach Award Nominee Florida Teens Read Award Nominee ABC Best Books for Young Readers Bank Street College Best Children's Books of the Year A Junior Library Guild Selection Hugo & Locus award finalist *The Borderlands* aren't like anywhere else. Don't try to smuggle a phone or any other piece of technology over the wall that marks the Border — unless you enjoy a fireworks display in your backpack. (Ballpoint pens are okay.) There are elves, harpies, and — best of all as far as Elliot is concerned — mermaids. "What's your name?" "Serene." "Serena?" Elliot asked. "Serene," said Serene. "My full name is Serene-Heart-in-the-Chaos-of-Battle." Elliot's mouth fell open. "That is badass." Elliot? Who's Elliot? Elliot is thirteen years old. He's smart and just a tiny bit obnoxious. Sometimes more than a tiny bit. When his class goes on a field trip and he can see a wall that no one else can see, he is given the chance to go to school in the Borderlands. It turns out that on the other side of the wall, classes involve a lot more weaponry and fitness training and fewer mermaids than he expected. On the other hand, there's Serene-Heart-in-the-Chaos-of-Battle, an elven warrior who is more beautiful than anyone Elliot has ever seen, and then there's her human friend Luke: sunny, blond, and annoyingly likeable. There are lots of interesting books. There's even the chance Elliot might be able to change the world. In *Other Lands* is the exhilarating new book from beloved and bestselling author Sarah Rees Brennan. It's a novel about surviving four years in the most unusual of schools, about friendship, falling in love, diplomacy, and finding your own place in the world — even if it means giving up your phone. **Massive** Pan Macmillan Weight has always been a big issue in Carmen's life. Not surprising when her mum is obsessed with the idea that thin equals beauty, thin equals success, thin equals the way to get what you want. And somehow her daughter is going to be thin. When her mother sweeps her off to live in the city, Carmen finds her old world disappearing. With everything to gain and absolutely nothing to lose. Carmen starts to ask: if she was thin, very thin, could it all be different? A new cover edition of Julia Bell's critically acclaimed YA novel, *Massive*, published to coincide with the release of Julia's new book, *The Dark Light* 'Bell's debut novel is tough, grimy and truthful as it looks at three women in the same family with food problems' Guardian '. . . boldly yet sensitively explores complex interactions between emotional and nutritional needs . . . perceptive and disturbing' Bookseller '. . . told with sympathy and humour . . . manages to be enjoyable as well as thought-provoking' Big Issue **The Rest of the Story** HarperCollins From #1 New York Times bestselling author Sarah Dessen comes a big-hearted, sweeping novel about a girl who reconnects with a part of her family she hasn't seen since she was a little girl—and falls in love, all over the course of a magical summer. Emma Saylor doesn't remember a lot about her mother, who died when Emma was twelve. But she does remember the stories her mom told her about the big lake that went on forever, with cold, clear water and mossy trees at the edges. Now it's just Emma and her dad, and life is good, if a little predictable...until Emma is unexpectedly sent to spend the summer with her mother's family that she hasn't seen since she was a little girl. When Emma arrives at North Lake, she realizes there are actually two very different communities there. Her mother grew up in working class North Lake, while her dad spent summers in the wealthier Lake North resort. The more time Emma spends there, the more it starts to feel like she is also divided into two people. To her father, she is Emma. But to her new family, she is Saylor, the name her mother always called her. Then there's Roo, the boy who was her very best friend when she was little. Roo holds the key to her family's history, and slowly, he helps her put the pieces together about her past. It's hard not to get caught up in the magic of North Lake—and Saylor finds herself falling under Roo's spell as well. For Saylor, it's like a whole new world is opening up to her. But when it's time to go back home, which side of her—Emma or Saylor—will win out? **Someone Like You** Hachette UK Quiet Halley and popular Scarlett have been friends for years, balancing each other perfectly - until the summer of their 16th birthdays. Scarlett's boyfriend is killed in a motorbike accident, just before she discovers she is carrying his baby. Now, for the first time, Scarlett really needs Halley at the same time as Halley needs her. Halley is caught up in the spell of first love, and the pressure to lose her virginity...Each with their own problems, can this friendship survive the strain of support that both Halley and Scarlett expect from each other? **Shuffle, Repeat** Random House Books for Young Readers When Harry Met Sally for YA romance readers. This opposites-attract love story is perfect for fans of Huntley Fitzpatrick, Stephanie Perkins, and Jenny Han. June wants high school to end and real life to begin. Oliver is soaking up senior year's glory days. They could have coasted through high school, knowing about—but not really knowing—each other. Except that their moms have arranged for Oliver to drive June to school. Every. Single. Day. Suddenly these two opposites are fighting about music, life

. . . pretty much everything. But love is unpredictable. When promises—and hearts—get broken, Oliver and June must figure out what really matters. And then fight for it. "Addictive. Fans of Deb Caletti and Sarah Dessen will enjoy this sweet romance." --SLJ "An entertaining and even touching romance." --Kirkus Reviews "Wonderfully readable, this lively first-person narrative is satisfying from the first fractious car ride right down to the unabashedly happy ending. A fine romance." --Booklist **The Kiss Off** Createspace Independent Pub REVIEWS'A fun, fabulous and swoon-worthy novel that is as perfect as a three-minute pop song. It has an absolutely killer hook that I wish I'd thought of!' - Shirley Marr, author of *Fury* and *Preloved*'Comedy is hard to do, particularly in written form, and Sarah Billington pulls it off' - *The Writer's Republic*'It's a real novel, with real teenage characters who could actually be walking the streets of my town' - *A Word's Worth*'This is the best contemporary non fantasy YA book I have read all year' - *Dead Trees and Silver Screens*'I was completely blown away by how much I loved this book' - NicoleYALover'Fresh and fun and extremely upbeat' - *I Love YA Fiction*'I absolutely adore this book' - *The Life of Fiction*'Highly enjoyable' - *Maji Bookshelf*'I loved this book!' - *Crazed Bookie*'I would recommend it to any contemporary lover or anyone wanting to read a contemporary with a kick-butt heroine!' - *Maji Bookshelf*BOOK DESCRIPTIONWhen sixteen year old Poppy Douglas writes a song about her ex-boyfriend Cam and ex-friend Nikki, she has no idea that her heartbreak is about to go global. A local band picks up her song from Youtube and soon she's along for the ride with her own fanbase as they blow up on the local club scene and hit the international charts. Though it turns out leaving Cam behind isn't as easy as she had hoped. Tangled in a web of unfinished homework, ill-considered sexting and a new lead-singer boyfriend, Poppy has a choice to make between the ex that inspired it all and the rock God whose poster lines the inside of half the lockers at school. But as she struggles to keep her emotional dirty laundry private, she learns that the truth can be hard to find when your life is in the headlines. **The Summer of Broken Rules** Sourcebooks, Inc. Perfect for fans of Jenny Han and Katie Cotugno, this is a story of loss, romance, and the time it takes to become who you really want to be. It's all just fun and games...until someone loses their heart. When Meredith Fox lost her sister, Claire, eighteen months ago, she shut everyone out. But this summer she's determined to join the world again. The annual family vacation to Martha's Vineyard seems like the perfect place to reconnect. Her entire extended family is gathering for a big summer wedding, and although Meredith is dateless after being unexpectedly dumped, she's excited to participate in the traditional Fox family game of assassin that will take place during the week of wedding festivities. Claire always loved the game, and Meredith is determined to honor her legacy. But when Meredith forms an assassin alliance with a cute groomsman, she finds herself getting distracted. Meredith tries to focus on the game and win it for her sister, but she can't help falling for him. And as the week progresses, she realizes she's not only at risk of losing the game, but also her heart. **Nailed** Bloomsbury Publishing USA The nail that sticks out farthest gets hammered the hardest. Flint Southwestern High School is run by a cult: the jockarchy. And Bret Hendricks could never fit into their conformity cult. Bret doesn't mind standing out from the crowd when he's on stage acting or singing in his band. And he feels at home in his funky girlfriend's arms because sticking out together doesn't seem as hard. But loyalties aren't what Bret thinks they are, as his safe havens seem to disappear one by one, and he learns that sometimes you just have to risk getting hammered in order to build a great future. For any teen who feels that standing out is harder than just conforming. Patrick Jones's second novel nails the real truth about the high price of hiding one's true self. **Lock and Key** Penguin UK Ruby Cooper likes to expect the worst. That way, she's never disappointed. Abandoned by her mother and forced to leave the house she calls home, Ruby is facing too many changes. Her lonely world has been transformed into a life of luxury by her long lost sister, but all Ruby wants to do is leave - she can make it on her own. Even Nate, the gorgeous boy-next-door can't seem to change her mind. Will Ruby realize first impressions don't always count? And that sometimes, people can surprise you, so it's ok to let the closest ones in . . . **That Summer** Penguin UK For fifteen-year-old Haven this is the summer where everything changes. Dad is remarrying. Her sister Ashley is planning a wedding of her own. They're both moving on, but Haven is lost in memories of a time when life was happy and her family was whole. And then Ashley's ex, the charming and funny Sumner Lee, arrives in town. He reminds Haven of carefree days gone by, and she can't help but wonder if fate has brought this person from her past back to change her future? **Saint Anything** Penguin UK Peyton, Sydney's charismatic older brother, has always been the star of the family, receiving the lion's share of their parents' attention and - lately - concern. When Peyton's increasingly reckless behavior culminates in an accident, a drunk driving conviction, and a jail sentence, Sydney is cast adrift, searching for her place in the family and the world. When everyone else is so worried about Peyton, is she the only one concerned about the victim of the accident? Enter the Chathams, a warm, chaotic family who run a pizza parlor, play bluegrass on weekends and pitch in to care for their mother, who has multiple sclerosis. Here Sydney experiences unquestioning acceptance. And here she meets Mac: gentle, watchful, and protective, who makes Sydney feel seen, really seen, for the first time. **Last Chance** Hachette UK Never in one place long enough to make friends or put down roots, Colie doesn't expect her trip to the North Carolina coast to change a thing. Always the outcast, she's resigned to a holiday with only her eccentric aunt Mira for company. But when she finds a job waitressing at the Last Chance cafe, she also finds acceptance, new friends, and the beginnings of romance... **Second Star to the Right** On the face of it, Leslie is a normal, healthy, well-adjusted fourteen-year-old girl. She goes to a good school, has a great friend in Cavett, and a mother who loves her to the moon and back. She should be happy, yet she's not. She would be, she thinks, if only she were thinner. But "thinking thin" becomes a dangerous obsession and Leslie's weight drops to five stone, threatening to destroy her and the whole fabric of her family life. Only by realizing that this condition is an illness -and one that has its roots in a deep problem -can Leslie hope to survive. **Stay** Simon and Schuster In a remote corner of Washington State where she and her father have gone to escape her obsessive boyfriend, Clara meets two brothers who captain a sailboat, a lighthouse keeper with a secret, and an old friend of her father who knows his secrets. **Getting Over Max Cooper** Penguin Letting go is a beach. Jazz Jacobson has spent fourteen of her sixteen summers on Fire Island. It's just an hour from Manhattan but feels like a world away, where Jazz thrives in the absence of the social hierarchies and pressures of high school. Most of all, it's the place where she's reunited with her best friend, Macy Whelan. This summer starts out strong when the cute new boy on the island seems to like Jazz (hello, first boyfriend?). But it's hard to focus on her own crush when Macy's still obsessing over her hookup from last summer, Max Cooper. Jazz can't believe how cold and mean Max is to Macy. But when Macy starts to seriously act out, Jazz begins to see that she knows only one side of the story . . . and that she has to help her friend before something terrible happens. Boundaries are crossed and the edge of sanity is tested in Marcelle Karp's debut novel, which celebrates the complicated dynamics of female friendship and the heartbreaking ache of first love. **Some Other Now** HMH Books For Young Readers This Is Us for teens, this luminous and heartbreaking contemporary novel follows a girl caught between two brothers as the three of them navigate family, loss, and love over the course of two summers. For fans of *Far From the Tree*, *Emergency Contact*, and *Nina LaCour*. Before she kissed one of the Cohen boys, seventeen-year-old Jessi Rumfield knew what it was like to have a family--even if, technically, that family didn't belong to her. She'd spent her childhood in the house next door, challenging Rowan Cohen to tennis matches while his older brother, Luke, studied in the background and Mel watched over the three like the mother Jessi always wished she had. But then everything changed. It's been almost a year since Jessi last visited the Cohen house. Rowan is gone. Mel is in remission and Luke hates Jessi for the role she played in breaking his family apart. Now Jessi spends her days at a dead-end summer job avoiding her real mother, who suddenly wants to play a role in Jessi's life after being absent for so long. But when Luke comes home from college, it's hard to ignore the past. And when he asks Jessi to pretend to be his girlfriend for the final months of Mel's life, Jessi finds herself drawn back into the world of the Cohens. Everything's changed, but Jessi can't help wanting to be a Cohen, even if it means playing pretend for one final summer. **Dreamland** Puffin After her older sister runs away, sixteen-year-old Caitlin decides that she needs to make a major change in her own life and begins an abusive relationship with a boy who is mysterious, brilliant, and dangerous. Reprint. **Royals** Scholastic UK PRINCESS DIARIES MEETS MADE IN CHELSEA Daisy Winters, average sixteen-year-old, has no desire to live in the spotlight - but it's not up to you when your perfect older sister is engaged to the Crown Prince of Scotland. The crown - and the intriguing Miles - might be trying to make Daisy into a lady, but she may have to rewrite the royal rulebook. **Chasing Lucky** Simon and Schuster A swoon-worthy story of first love, making mistakes and finding out who you are, from the author of *Night Owls*. Budding photographer Josie Saint-Martin has spent half her life with her single mother, moving from city to city. When they return to her historical New England hometown to run the family bookstore, Josie knows it's not forever, so there's no reason to change her *modus operandi*—keeping to herself, dreaming of the day she can leave. But after a disastrous summer party, a poorly executed act of revenge lands her in big-time trouble. As in, jail...alongside the last person with whom she'd want to share a mugshot: the son of the boat mechanic across the street, Lucky Karras. Outsider, rebel...and her former childhood best friend. Josie and Lucky become the talk of their coastal small town. But during a summer of secrets, everything changes, and the easy friendship they once shared grows into something deeper and more complicated. Can Josie and Lucky swim past obstacles that come with rough waters, or will they both go down together? **Lock and Key A Novel** Penguin When her mother abandons her at her estranged sister's house to start her life anew, Ruby tries to adjust to her new home, family, and strange new reality the best she can while dealing with the sad fact that her mother is most probably gone from her life for good. 200,000 first printing. **Keeping the Moon** Penguin Never underestimate the power of friendship. When Colie goes to spend the summer at the beach, she doesn't expect much. But Colie didn't count on meeting Morgan and Isabel. Through them, she learns what true friendship is all about, and finally starts to realize her potential. And that just might open the door to her first chance at love. . . . "A down-to-earth Cinderella story. . . captures that special feeling." —*The New York Post* Also by Sarah Dessen: *Along for the Ride* *Dreamland* *Just Listen* *Lock and Key* *The Moon and More* *Someone Like You* *That Summer* *This Lullaby* *The Truth About Forever* *What Happened to Goodbye* **Into the Woods** Simon and Schuster In the chilling conclusion of the *De Beers* saga, Grace Houston, an only child, finds her world torn apart by the death of her father and her mother's remarriage to Kirby Scott, a scheming fortune-hunter with his eye on the vulnerable and innocent Grace. Simultaneous. **Tempo Change** Delacorte Press It's tough enough defining your identity—imagine if your father was a rock legend. Blanche Kelly's dad is a famous indie rock icon, but not many people at the private school she attends on scholarship know this. Her father left when she was in the first grade, and she can't quite forgive her mom for not understanding that an artist like her dad needs the time and space to connect to his muse. When Blanche creates an all-girl rock band, their sound captures a wide audience and the band is invited to compete at the Coachella Music Festival. Blanche feels this could be the perfect time for a reunion with her father. Won't he be proud to hear her band? Won't he be happy to get to know his only daughter? Author Barbara Hall sensitively explores the expectations between parents and teens, as well as the value of learning about your past to make your own future. **Between the Lines** Simon and Schuster Sixteen-year-old Prince Oliver, who wants to break free of his fairy tale existence, and fifteen-year-old Delilah, a loner obsessed with Prince Oliver and the book in which he exists, work together to seek Oliver's freedom.