

Booklist Review

Books For Youth - Fiction - General Fiction



Madness.

Brewer, Zac (author).

Sept. 2017. 304p. HarperTeen, hardcover, \$17.99 ([9780062457851](#)). Grades 9-12.

[REVIEW](#). First published June 1, 2017

(*Booklist*).



**Booklist
Editors
Recommend**

Brooke Danvers learns the hard way that the one thing worse than wanting to kill yourself is failing at it. After six weeks as an inpatient, all she wants to do is try again, especially when confronted by overly cautious parents, curious classmates, and an administration that never cared before. At least she has Duckie, her best friend, who is gay and always has her back. Things begin to change when two new men enter her life: Dr. Daniels, her patient and nonjudgmental shrink, and Derek, the handsome new guy who knows exactly what Brooke's going through. But are Brooke and Derek good for each other? The use of *Romeo and Juliet* as the school play is the perfect counterpart to the Brooke-Derek story line, and Brooke's folding of origami cranes serves as a physical measure of her increased wellness. Brewer maps out a path that isn't always easy for Brooke or for those who care about her, but readers will cheer as she navigates her way toward a degree of peace with her mental illness.

HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY: Best-seller Brewer's honest and highly personal story will speak to a wide audience—and he has a large one—so stock up.

—*Jeanne Fredriksen*

Titles similar to *Madness*

- *Challenger Deep*
- *The Memory of Light*