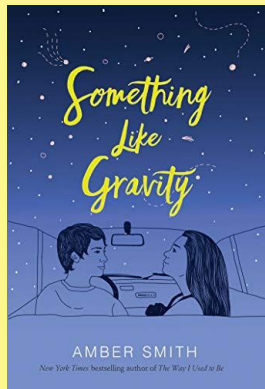


Booklist Review

Books For Youth - Fiction - General Fiction



Something like Gravity.
Smith, Amber (author).
June 2019. 386p. Simon & Schuster/Margaret K. McElderry, \$18.99 ([9781534437180](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9781534437180)).
Grades 9-12.
[REVIEW](#). First published May 1, 2019 (*Booklist*).

Separately, Chris and Maia are two teens consumed by deep personal problems. When Chris spends the summer at his aunt's

in small-town North Carolina to escape his parents' arguments about his being transgender, the two teens meet and gradually become more than friends. Nevertheless, it takes time for Chris to reveal he's trans, and he doesn't want to talk about the brutal gendered assault he suffered a year ago. Maia's reluctance to talk about her sister's death continues to shield another secret she's hoping never to reveal, especially to Chris. Smith's whole-hearted support of LGBTQ teens and equality is genuine, as is her acknowledgment that grief must occur on one's own terms. Both narrators are honest in their own narratives even when they hide truths from each other, and the inclusion of close friends who are placed at arms' length bring an added dimension of authenticity to the story. Teens who need to find their place in a world they hope will accept and understand them will want to read this compelling novel.

— *Jeanne Fredriksen*



Booklist Editors Recommend

Titles similar to
Something like Gravity

- *Noteworthy*
- *Rethinking Normal*
- *Some Assembly Required*