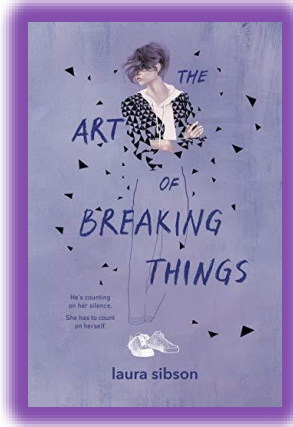


Booklist Review

Books For Youth - Fiction - General Fiction



The Art of Breaking Things.

Sibson, Laura (author).

June 2019. 400p. Viking, \$18.99

[\(9780451481115\)](#). Grades 9-12.

[REVIEW](#). First published April 15, 2019 (Booklist).

Skye is a talented artist who can't wait to attend art school after graduation. In the meantime, she loves making art, getting stoned, and partying with her friends.

When Skye's mother's ex-

boyfriend, Dan, a sleazeball in academic clothing, comes back into her world, Skye doesn't know what to do. Dan is demanding and critical, and his presence chafes against the damage he inflicted on Skye when she was 12. As a result, Skye feels the need to abandon her scholarship and shield her 12-year-old sister. Facing the truth she's suppressed since that night while camping, Skye is empowered and sheds the guilt she's carried for years. Sibson's beautiful debut runs the gamut of emotions, allowing her protagonist to fail and make bad choices without judgement, so that Skye can find the courage to positively use her voice. In this realistic, heartrending portrayal of the lasting harm caused by sexual abuse, Skye's memories are parsed out, giving her space to explore the conflicting emotions and questions they incur. Perfect for fans of Laurie Halse Anderson. — *Jeanne Fredriksen*



Booklist Editors Recommend

Titles similar to *The Art of Breaking Things*

- *Speak*
- *All the Rage*
- *Some Boys*
- *A Heart in a Body in the World*