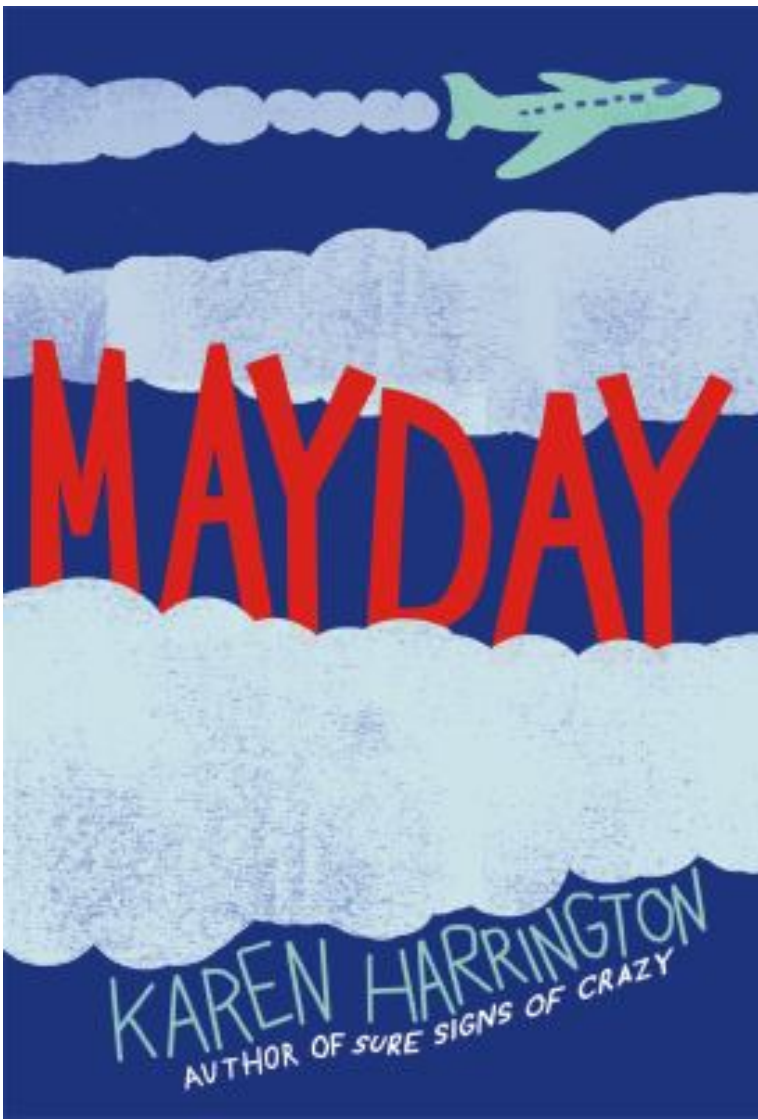


Middle School



Mayday

by Karen Harrington

AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Grades 4-7 - Booklist
- Grades 5-8 - School Library Journal

Middle school is tough for most kids, but seventh-grader Wayne Kovoks is having a particularly bad year. On the way home from his uncle's funeral, Wayne's plane crashes. He and his mother are among the survivors, but Wayne walks away from the wreckage with an injured throat and an L-shaped gash running down from his face: L for loser. The severe swelling in the 12-year-old's neck means no talking. For a kid who copes with social situations by rattling off an encyclopedic number of facts, not having a voice makes life challenging in a whole new way. On top of these major roadblocks, Wayne is navigating relationships with Sandy (his sort-of girlfriend), his dad (divorced), and his grandfather (former drill sergeant and new housemate). Random facts and Wayne's sense of humor lighten the more serious plot developments, while his forced silence causes him to take a closer look at the people around him. Harrington's (*Sure Signs of Crazy*, 2013) latest comes with heft, hope, and scads of trivia.

- Booklist

*This title is not rated on Common Sense Media.
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