



Slammed

Colleen Hoover

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This is an alternate cover edition for ASIN B008TRUDAS.

Following the unexpected death of her father, 18-year-old Layken is forced to be the rock for both her mother and younger brother. Outwardly, she appears resilient and tenacious, but inwardly, she's losing hope.

Enter Will Cooper: The attractive, 21-year-old new neighbor with an intriguing passion for slam poetry and a unique sense of humor. Within days of their introduction, Will and Layken form an intense emotional connection, leaving Layken with a renewed sense of hope.

Not long after an intense, heart-stopping first date, they are slammed to the core when a shocking revelation forces their new relationship to a sudden halt. Daily interactions become impossibly painful as they struggle to find a balance between the feelings that pull them together, and the secret that keeps them apart.

Slammed Details

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Author : Colleen Hoover

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From Reader Review Slammed for online ebook

Navessa says

I am a girl named Cory
Who really likes to read stories
I suck at rhyming
But that's just fine...ing
And fa la la la la.

This is a book about poetry
That doesn't like to show us things
It *tells* us it's speshul
It *tells* us it's different
When really it's just the same old shit.

Fin.

Richa says

Dhak dhak dhak....

do you hear that?
That's the sound of my heart beating as I finish the book...

Dhak dhak dhak.....

do you hear that?
That's the sound of my heart chanting "*I wish this would never end*".

Shush shush shush....

do you hear that?
That's the sound of my lips trying to form words enough to express what I feel....
Right now I'm thinking *I so wish this story was real...*

Will made me fall in love with him

Lake and **Julia** made me cry

Kel and **Caulder** were adorable

Eddie was like the **fourth of july** [meaning sparkling, full of life....sorry, know you get that :)]

Gavin.....*Oh Gavin*... "Can I have a '**Pre-Proposal**' too?" [Eddie would probably have scratched my eyes out for this or perhaps just laughed at the ridiculousness of it - I'm hoping for the latter ;)]

It's hard to put my feelings into words

But I guess a person run over by a **freight train of emotions** can't be expected to say everything at once
Words are trying to spew forth out of me in short bursts
So let me tell you a **story of a boy and a girl**
They meet in a U-haul, **they fall in love**

They go on a date playing "would you rather" along the way
He takes her to a *slam* and **boy does she get slammed**
So would you be, so **better be prepared.**
Then comes the part which **tears them apart**
And it really does suck and breaks your heart :(
They can't be together, yet can't live without each other
Trust me this not just some *Quintessential romance*
Devastating things get revealed at an alarming rate
But through all of it they are **there for each other, always holding hands.**

Perhaps I have not been able to express anything in a coherent way
But don't expect me to because **I'm discombobulated** and it'll be a miracle if I find my way to Sleep land

And anyway that's not the *point*
The *point* is.....
It's easy to have *books* in your life
Ever wanted to have *life* in your books?
Well then all you need to do is get *Slammed*

*Don't take life too seriously. Punch it in the face when it needs a good hit. Laugh at it. And **Never** regret.*

Ails says

Slam poetry plays a major role in Colleen Hoover's "Slammed." So instead of the traditional way, I present you my attempt at a simple poetic review. *Note: "Schooled" is originally written by Layken Cohen, the main female character in this book.*

"Schooled"

I got **schooled** this year
By fictional characters
By a beautiful story
By a *book*

I got **schooled** this year
By Layken, Will, Julia, Kel, and Eddie
They taught me to accept death and **life**
That it'll *get in our way* and we have to be ready
They taught me to **laugh, love, hope, and cry**
That someday, the *hardships and heartaches* will all come in handy

I got **schooled** this year
By a story of romance with a great **depth** to it

It taught me to use both *my head and my heart*
To **balance** and treat the two of them as **a unit**
It taught me to be *open-minded* and smart
To ask myself a few **questions** before I *commit*

I got **schooled** this year..
By "*Slammed*"

As much as I don't wish to provide further details (to avoid making a very long review), I think I have to write the part that I feel so strongly about:

"I slide into the bed beside my mother and wrap my arms around her. She finds my hand and we interlock fingers as we talk without saying a single word."

I won't lie, I cried so hard at this. My mom and I used to do the same thing when I was a kid. How many times did someone tell us to treasure our mother, or parents in general, while they're still alive? And how many times did we shrug and ignore it?

Do they have to be dying before we relive the old days? The good old days when they're the **most important person/s in our lives** and not our social shits or boyfriends or girlfriends?

You know what? We're going to spend our lives with our husband/wife LONGER than we have with our parents. Love them with all you got and don't half-ass it.

So you see, this amazing book made me experience a spectrum of emotion! And yes, *it absolutely "schooled" me. I highly-recommend!! :)*

Kristin (KC) - Traveling Sister says

Don't take life too seriously. Punch it in the face when it needs a good hit. Laugh at it.

Inspiring! I am genuinely *floored* by the brilliance of this book! I adored every single one of these amazing characters and the way they were so realistically portrayed. The unique plot, the bitter-sweet tension, and the tender romance all had me mesmerized...but I won't further digress on these elements, as I'm sure they will clearly speak for themselves...

What I do want to shine a light upon is the breathtaking wisdom that abundantly graced these pages and made its way to not only my heart, but deep within--resonating with my soul. (And I'm not only referring to the ingenious Avett Brothers quotes!)

This book was more than a love story. It was more than clever entertainment. It took every wonderful element I long for in a story and set it into motion through what felt like a song. It showed that grief, happiness, love, and loss are all emotions that can coexist so long as there is acceptance and appreciation for what IS. The slam poetry was phenomenal, but it was not the only lyrical aspect. The entire story flowed methodically like music—occasionally changing rhymes, but never reason.

I've never cried so intensely while reading a book—honestly, and for various reasons. Who knew I could feel so utterly heartbroken, enlightened, and peaceful at the same time without becoming conflicted.

Slammed was an extraordinary read that had **POWER** in its simplicity. This was NOT a preachy book. Not in the least, and still, I felt that every piece of me had been thoroughly *schooled* by its wisdom. There was not a single message conveyed that was not backed up by a stunning example played out by the characters. It was as if the author said--I can tell you my idea of peace, love, and happiness, but I'd much rather show you...

Through poetry, and pain,
happiness and shame,
family ruins and **pink balloons**;
by acceptance of strife—
we're *shown* how to emphasize the **LIFE** in our lives.

...And for that, I thank you, Miss Hoover.

Book Stats:

- ? **Genre/Category:** Romance/New Adult
- ? **Steam Caliber:** Mild but sexy
- ? **Romance:** Slow-building. Angsty and complicated.
- ? **Characters:** Lovable, quirky, and relatable.
- ? **Plot:** Emotional love story--also showcases the bonds of family and friends.
- ? **Writing:** Poetic, witty, and beautifully inspiring. Unique way with words.
- ? **POV:** First person: Heroine
- ? **Cliffhanger:** None
- ? **Next Installment:** Continuing story

?**Karlyn P?** says

Wanted to love it, but this is not my kind of romance. Not even for a YA romance.

SLAMMED was angsty teenage love story with a heart wrenching sub-plot, but the heroine made it a very disappointing read. I expected a more mature minded heroine, not an overly emotional girl who thinks a mad boy crush after one date is the 'real thing'. The whole high school giggly student bit was a turn off for me.

I liked Will a lot, and thought his maturity and love for poetry was well portrayed, but I didn't get the connection with Layken. She made dumb choices, said dumb comments, put him at risk, and made everything be about her. Personally, I thought the author did a great job of developing a typical 18 y/o girl, but it only emphasized her lack of maturity as a lead heroine.

This would have worked for me in a more adult setting, but the the teenage angst was over done. At times

she was a drama queen only focused on herself, and she had no concept of how others felt. Then other times she's a silly giggly high schooler. Either way, I didn't buy her as a convincing heroine.

The subplot was very good and emotional, but it was great wallpaper only. The romance needs to stand on its own, not be carried by a secondary storyline.

SLAMMED is a teenage girl fantasy romance story, so it doesn't surprise me at how popular it is. But I'd prefer to read about more mature minded couples falling in love, so this one didn't cut it for me.

Katie says

I just read this whole thing on a plane and WOW. This is one of the best contemporaries I've read in a long time. I was wary of this book because it's new adult, but I really, really enjoyed it. Having older characters was a nice change and the story was seriously so fast and addicting. *flies to Amazon to order sequel*

Taryn says

This review was posted at My Secret Romance

I am going to *SLAM* my review. Not really sure if I *SLAMMED* it correctly, to be honest. Before I do, I need say this- this book deserves an endless number of stars!

I fell in love with a book by an author
Who wrote the most beautifully compelling story
I think I have ever read
For real
A story of two people struggling to climb a mountain of quicksand
With nothing to grab onto but each others hand
A story of a heart shattering love
And life's winding roads
But instead of balling up and crying
They're fighting it with a vengeance
I read a remarkable story
That evoked so many different emotions from me
Some that were felt at the same time
Which wasn't fun
I was lost in the lives of these fictional characters
That I so desperately wanted to be real

I read a story about a girl
A beautiful girl with a big heart
A girl who was forced to move to a new town
And bare the beating of stones life threw at her
Some stones left gashes and scars
And others that just faded away

But there was one stone that left a mark
By a boy
Who she fell madly and deeply in love with

A boy who had the world on top of his shoulders
With responsibilities most could not fathom to comprehend
A jerk of a boy
A hot boy
Who also fell madly and deeply in love with a girl
Who he refused to make time for
A girl he loved from the moment he laid eyes on
But painfully was forbidden to be with

Emotions are laid bare
For all to see
A new life
A big change
And a life that will soon sadly be freed
Knowing they would be there to wipe away each others' tears
But the pain felt inside could only be repaired
By a boy
And a girl
Who fell madly deeply in love with each other
But could never be

How do you fight the attraction
The intense chemistry that you feel
When so much is at stake
Of a love that was slammed
Before it could even took place

Colleen Hoover you rocked my socks
And made me cry
And made me feel
Too many different things inside
There are things I have ignored
For long periods of time
And things I chose to face one quick step at a time
Why it is that reading can make us see
The things we choose not to
When faced with reality
It's just words on paper that
Should mean nothing
But in fact they mean everything
Hundreds of paper bound by glue
Of a story that flew me over the moon
This is a book that I will never forget
Or ever find the proper words
To say how much it means to me

But
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU

This book was provided by the publisher in return for an honest review.

Baba says

2 stars.Review posted August 11, 2013**

First of all I must say that I LIKED the slamming (I don't mean the doors, I'm talking about the poetry). Sorry, couldn't resist. I would rate that with four stars.

Up to the 35 % mark it was nice, it was good, it was ok even though it didn't knock my socks off. I've had a few minor issues but nothing too annoying. Unfortunately a lot went downhill after that update and too many things--and especially a HIGHLY annoying and juvenile bitch--compromised the book for me. So I feel kinda like this at the moment...

I have read enough books that I know what I like. Personally, the biggest letdown for me was the writing. As I mentioned already I liked the slamming; that was lovely. However, the writing in general is average at best, and after reading and loving Leah Raeder's *Unteachable*, I must say that Colleen Hoover's writing is not even average. Also, some parts of *Slammed* are too cheesy. Hence, it's safe to say that I belong to the little corner of readers who didn't enjoy *Slammed*, and I honestly don't understand what's so magical about this book. Before *Slammed* I've read *God-Shaped Hole* and I "only" rated it with four stars. Compared to *Slammed*, *God-Shaped Hole* deserves five stars--especially the second half of the book. Besides, some of the really awesome books that I've read deserve probably seven, eight, nine or ten stars--always compared to *Slammed*. As it is, my range is very limited. Thus, I cannot give more than 2 stars to *Slammed*. Sorry guys.

There is way too much manufactured drama in *Slammed*. Lake lost her father six months ago, (view spoiler) The boy next door (Will) lost his parents three years ago and has to raise his brother on his own. And, since he is her teacher, they cannot see each other and that causes more drama throughout the entire plot. Crying here and crying there...*rolls eyes*

Will openly flirting with Lake and actually hitting on her right off the bat kind of surprised me, and I felt it was too quick. They see each other for the first time and wham...within a couple of hours both of them were smitten. I didn't really buy that. Yet they don't do the deed at all. Now *that* sure as hell didn't add up for me. Although the initial chat-up was too fast, I would like to drive an important point home. I didn't want them to wait for more than 700 (?) pages until they hit the sheets. In fact, it's contradictory and irritating as all get out to let them eat each other up right from the beginning without getting them to fourth base within the first

book. **Contrived build-up, much?** Ugh.

The heroine is calling Will all kinds of not so nice names. She is playing the ~~immature~~ hurt little girl who is slamming the door on a regular basis. Very childish and ridiculous. Lake, my seven-year-old son is pretty well-versed when it comes to slamming doors. I'm sure he could give you some pointers how to improve your technique.

~~Bad, bad Will...tsk tsk...*stern look*~~ No, let me rephrase that. Lake, you are such a whiny little bitch!

Although I must cut her some slack because **if Will had been a woman I would have called him a freaking cock tease!!** There I said it and I feel better already. Friendly advice, Will, you can shove sentences like *"I had a weak moment. I'm sorry."* or *"It won't happen again, I swear."* (and then it happens again and again) up your ass! On the other hand, it doesn't excuse the heroine's juvenile and annoying behavior. Another issue that I had was Will kissing Lake on her forehead. Every time he did that I had to roll my eyes. And what annoyed the living daylights out of me was the fact that Will (view spoiler)

Certain plot twists are the same ole same ole and so overdone it's not even funny anymore.

Is there a sign saying *"Do not engage your brain. Turn it off and jump to conclusions because it's so good to throw a temper tantrum later while bawling your eyes out."* And to put emphasis on your disapproval you need to storm off and slam your door shut (yes, I know, I have mentioned that already but it bears repeating). Wow. Now *that* makes you oh-so mature! It didn't make me happy, though. If anything, it's incredibly boring and such behavior is getting on my very last nerve.

That's me...I've got a headache...

I can't help it but an extensive part of Slammed reads like a teenager's diary filled with puppy love and family drama. The book goes straight on my shelf books-everyone-loved-but-baba where it will gather some dust. I'm calling it quits coz I have no intention whatsoever to torture myself by reading Point of Retreat. Some readers told me that Lake would drive me nuts because she is assuming stuff all the time. Non-verbal communication, much? In fact, she acts worse in Point of Retreat than in Slammed. Nope, not going there. I want to stay sane and healthy. Onwards...

P.S. ~~I just hope that Will will get some in book 2 otherwise he's going to die of blue balls.~~ I have been

informed there won't be any sex in the sequel either.

P.P.S. Lake, go buy a vibrator. Geez...

Whitney Atkinson says

Idk why I keep reading Colleen Hoover when I know I won't like her. Actually, I do know why. I read this book in like 12 hours because it's so addicting. Even though it was so lame and cliché and the characters are infuriating and this plot was such a mess and I don't like her books.

UGH maybe someday (haha) i'll read an actually good colleen hoover book.

~~this one didn't even have sex in it what was the point~~

Angela says

“Push your boundaries, that's what they're there for.”

It's currently 2:10 in the morning... I finished *Slammed* over 30 minutes ago... And I just stopped crying. I went into *Slammed* ONLY knowing that this book involved slam poetry. I had never even read the synopsis too this story (after reading *Ugly Love* I knew that when it comes to Hoover books you have to go into it blind). The odd thing is of all of Colleen's books, I've owned this one the longest and I'm just now reading it. I HATE MYSELF FOR THAT!!!!

I would never believe that this was Hoover's debut novel. It's so strong that I assumed it was a 4th or 5th book. Nope. She never fails to incorporate something new and unique into her writing, if it's paintings, music, or even poetry. She really has a style all her own. There are only three writers I will drop everything I'm reading to pick up their work... That's John Green, Jennifer Armentrout, and Colleen Hoover.

Slammed follows the story of new Michigan transplant Lake as she is forced to start a new life her senior year of high school. After her father's untimely death her mother can't afford to keep them living in Texas. First day in the new place Lake's brother befriends the boy next door... Introducing Lake to Will. The charming, handsome, and sweet poet.

The characters in this book feel so real! Lake and Will are written too perfectly. Lake, though mature for her age has the same immature moments as the rest of us. Will is just so sweet, speaking in a way that will have you swooning all over the place. Both their love towards their family captured my heart 200%. Both characters' physical appearance is described just enough to give you an idea then left you to make your own decision. As the characters develop in the story the story itself grows into something so hard to capture in words. I thought that the insta-lust that happened right away was going to ruin this book for me. **But** at the end I realized that this story might have involved love but it's not the love you expect. I wish I could explain that more but it's the only way I can say it. It's about a deeper kind of love than just being with someone. The sub characters like Eddie and the baby brothers... PHENOMENAL. Colleen has it so they are sub characters that manage to shine so much light without ever overpowering.

The plot has this pace between fast and medium, and it was at a rate I'd never experienced before. Then of course there's the whole poetry and music aspect that was put into this story. It's what takes this book to the next level. The poetry is introduced in the first handful of pages. I didn't know how I was going to feel about it... **BUT WOW**. Seriously the first poem had me in tears and they only got better from there. The quotes from The Avett Brothers are perfect placed and were just a nice little treat at the start of every chapter. Like I said, this is a story you need to go into blind, therefore I can't, even though I want to, go into more detail. This book started strong and then had me a blubbering mess. **I don't know if I should be mad or thankful that Colleen is constantly finding new ways to tear my heart out of my chest. I don't think I've ever not been a mess at the end of one of her books.**

This story made me laugh a hundred times, and cry at least five. *Slammed* is one beautiful, quotable, and poetic line one after another. *Slammed* touched me on such a personal level I probably cried harder than most. This book is a must read, and definitely made its way into my all time favorites.

READ THIS REVIEW AND OTHERS OVER ON OUR BLOG:

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<http://southernbredsouthernread.blogs...>

Abbi Glines says

Awesome. Must read! I devoured this book. The story sucks you in and doesn't let you go. Adore Colleen Hoover and must read more of her.

Tarryn Fisher says

I hated this book. JUST KIDDING!

Let's start with Lake (I feel like I can call her Lake since I know her so well). Many authors-huge, famous authors-write characters that make me roll my eyes...scrunch up my nose...close the book and not miss them-**EVER**. Lake was not one of those characters. She was literary flesh and bone. She was "cool" and funny and deep. Most of all, I believed she was eighteen. We all know what Will was, so I won't go there.

Maybe I WILL

I want him

You know what else I want? Accolades for another rising Indie author that wrote a novel better than 99.9% of the novels on the shelves. The writing was flawless. Her characters were perfectly imperfect (hello Layken and Eddie giggling and making Chuck Norris jokes in detention).

I am a notorious book snob. I read only the best, I recommend only the best. I cannot say enough about both the creativity, originality and depth of *Slammed*. A book that surely rises above all of its competition and

SLAMS them in the face. I would urge Colleen Hoover to contact Stephenie Meyer and perhaps offer her some lessons on character development and plot structuring. I would urge Colleen Hoover to keep writing stories and creating characters for those of us who are death to sick of boring, insipid characters (see I'm so clever).

Or maybe Colleen is the clever one, because this book has set itself so far apart authors will be trying to catch it for years.

Sasha Alsberg says

Brb crying from love and heartbreak because of this book

Melissa says

There Comes a Time

*There comes a time in life when you read, feel, or hear **something** and words*

*Cannot not describe the **emotions**, thoughts or actions it brings out of **you**.*

*There comes a time in life when you feel **inspired** to do something that it is you've never done **before**,
Experience things you never thought you **could do**.*

*There comes a time in your life when against all **odds** you know there is a **light** at the end of the **tunnel**,
And that you will make it out **okay**.*

*Breathing, living, crying, screaming, yelling, **smiling**.*

*There comes a time in life when you know that no matter what happens, you can still look **back**,
And say you gave it your **all**.*

*In today's world, it seems like nothing will turn around for the **better** as we sit and wait and become **bitter**.*

*In life you find things that are **astounding**. In every way imaginable and every way you **can see**.*

*Things that are **life changing** in the best way possible. Things that you can only **describe** with the most vivid
of **words and actions**.*

*There comes a time in life when you **say** no matter what, at the end of the **day** I gave it my **all**.*

*Knowing that there is **peace** within you and with all that **surrounds you**.*

*There comes a time in life when you **smile** because you know, at that time life is everything you
wanted it **to be** but never thought that it **could**.*

*Shouting from the rooftops the joy that you have **inside** and wanting to share it with **the world**.*

*There comes a time in life when all is at it **should be** and you turn around, look at yourself and know that
this is what you were **meant for**.....MLD*

...And that time came for me throughout the entirety of this book. I cannot remember the last time I was so touched, so inspired, so intrigued, so consumed with a book as I was with Slammed. The slam poetry was utterly brilliant and the story to go along with it was damn near perfection.

Layken (aka Lake) is an eighteen year old who has just moved away from everything she's ever known as "home" after her father's sudden death. She needs and tries so hard to be the rock that her little brother, Kel, and mother can lean on. On moving day, she meets her neighbors from across the street, Will and his little brother, Caulder. It was pretty much love at first sight...for the little brothers as well. I loved the dynamics of the kids' relationship. How easy it is to just accept and be happy at that age...

Will asks Lake on a date and it's unlike any typical date she's been on before. None of the boring questions about how many siblings, dogs, cats, etc.. Then he brings her to a Slam session. She is thoroughly enjoying herself and begs him to do a slam for her, he volunteers, does his slam and the rest is history...

Three days ago, I was devastated, bitter, and hopeless. Today I woke up feeling happy for the first time in months.

Will did that for Lake, in all the months that had passed and while her unhappiness began to consume her, he helped her to see life in a different way...

...Then a devastating revelation happens....and then another, and you think to yourself, WHY??? Why can't everything just be okay?!...

Throughout the course of the book, Lake and Will had to face some of the toughest obstacles any two people could ever or should ever have to face. I would like to think that Lake's best friend Eddie helped to keep her grounded, she was one of my favorite characters in the book; her joy leaped off of the pages to me and I found myself smiling every time she would give off her words of wisdom...

This book had me going through so many emotions. I had a lot of ups and downs, tears of sorrow and tears of contentment, grins and frowns. My heart beat rapidly at times for the hope of a solution and beat rapidly at times for the nervousness of what was to come...

So many adversities to overcome, so many issues to work through, so many questions of priority. Through poetry so much is revealed of how one copes with things, deals with feelings; pouring their soul out to a captive audience. Why? Because it speaks volumes:

The ways these poets are able to lure you into a whole new world, viewing things from a vantage point you've never seen before. Making you feel like you are the mother who lost her baby, or the boy who killed his father, or even the man who got high for the first time...

This was so much more than a book to me, it put so many things into perspective, it touched me on a deeper level. At the first slam, I knew this would be one of my favorite books of all time, now that I'm done? I'm glad to see that I was right! I would give this book WAY more than 5 stars if GR would let me, but for now, know that I absolutely LOVED this book and am excited to read more of Layken and Will's story in the sequel! In closing, I will leave you with this...

Be accepting of everything. People's differences, their similarities, their choices, their personalities. Sometimes it takes a variety to make a good collection.

Aestas Book Blog says

MOVIE NEWS!!! ---> Both SLAMMED and POINT OF RETREAT have been optioned by a MOVIE producer!!!!!!!

WOW! 6 stars!! What a beautiful and powerful book! Definitely a MUST read!!

I loved this book for so many reasons... I loved that Will and Lake were wonderfully refreshing hero and heroine characters because they were realistic, smart, not annoying in any way and didn't make stupid decisions. I loved the author's writing style - its very simple but very powerful and its one of those books that really makes you *feel* what is going on with the characters.

I was completely and utterly shocked to find that I loved the Slam poetry. Boy is it powerful (I know I've used that word a lot here but it seems to be the best of that fits what I'm feeling). I've always hated poetry - was never able to absorb it or relate to it but in this book, it is so effecting in giving the reader a view of what is going on in the characters' head and heart.

I loved the intensity of Will and Lake's feelings for each other. I had butterflies in my stomach for most of the book and could stop turning the pages.

This book brought me to tears more than once. And my cheeks were damp throughout the whole final 10% or so. Loved it!!!

This book is about love and loss and life and death (not the death of the hero/heroine though, fear not lol).

I'd highly highly recommend it to pretty much anyone and everyone who loves to read.
Now I understand what all the fuss was about - everywhere I looked here, people were raving about it and now I'm joining that club!

I'm off to go read the sequel now - I can't wait to read more about Will and Lake...

Here's a slam quote:

*I got schooled this year
by
a
Boy.
a boy that **I'm seriously,
deeply, madly, incredibly,
and undeniably in love**
with.
And he taught me the most
important thing of **all** ...
To put the **emphasis**
On **life**.*

My version of Will from Slammed:

For more of my reviews, visit Aestas Book Blog

And come join the Aestas Book Blog Facebook Page

Christy says

5 stars

Don't take life too seriously. Punch it in the face when it needs a good hit. Laugh at it.

Slammed is one of those books that is completely unforgettable for me. It was one of my first Indie books I read years ago and for some reason this week, I got the itch to re-read it. Sometimes when I read a book for the second time, I feel different about it. I like it more than the first time, or I realize it wasn't as good as I thought it was... with *Slammed*, it was exactly as I remember it. Unique, beautiful, inspiring and compelling. There are so many parts that made me think YES. This is what reading is about. This is what life is about. It's a book that makes me remember why I love to read so much. *Slammed* will always hold a special place in my heart, it was my first CoHo book after all ;)

So, you keep your ocean.
I'll take the lake.

Emily May says

I am conducting what I'm shelving as a "New Adult (NA) Experiment". I'm going to work my way through some of the popular New Adult books and see if I can weed out the crap and hopefully find some surprising gems. Here's hoping!

It's been a while, my friends. I had to take a break for the sake of my sanity. I decided to return to the NA experiment with *Slammed* because I'd heard it was less offensive than Hoover's later novel - *Hopeless* - and also because I've had luck with a NA student/teacher romance in the past (*Unteachable*). **Alas, I was wrong to be so optimistic.** I suppose that *Slammed* is less offensive when compared to the creepy pro-stalker ideas being thrown around in *Hopeless* but it certainly makes up for it by being an example of terrible writing. Where *Hopeless* offered entertainment and sexual tension that made it obvious where its popularity came from, I am honestly confused by all the positive reactions to *Slammed*.

I do think if I'd read this book first I might have at least appreciated the improvement in quality of the author's writing by the time she wrote *Hopeless*. In this, Hoover's writing is a couple steps below average and looks even less impressive when compared to the fantastic teacher/student romance in *Unteachable* (and it's beautiful writing). The author struggles with the build-up of the relationship between Layken and Will, forgetting about sexual tension and/or chemistry and jumping too quickly from their meeting to some extremely cheesy moments. The drama is constant but handled roughly - making scenes that should be heart-breaking feel emotionally manipulative and causing me to roll my eyes rather than to burst into tears.

Both characters, as well as the book in general, lack any emotional maturity. Layken frequently behaves like a bratty little kid, slamming doors and calling Will names. I really had no patience for her childish antics. Though, Will wasn't much better. He would constantly lead Layken on and then blame it on a moment of weakness. More than once.

It was cringy and stupid because the reader is well aware that it wasn't a moment of weakness and that he actually wants to be with Layken but he's being an immature idiot and not to mention **a complete fucking tease**. Just sayin'.

Aside from the writing being awful, the real problem in this for me was the failure to convince me that there was any real barrier to Layken and Will's relationship. Perhaps it was because their ages were too close to give me any sense of the forbidden or because Will wasn't exactly a "real" teacher, but nothing about it got my heart pounding like Raeder's *Unteachable*. It seemed more like there was no problem except the one the two of them created in their little melodramatic minds. Angst for the sake of angst. But I wasn't buying it. I think it's fair to say that me and Ms Hoover finally part ways for good.

Colleen Hoover says

Can the *author* possibly add a few more words in *italics* because I don't think we got *enough*.

Regan says

Well damn.

S.C. Stephens says

Wow! I can't believe I'm only allowed to give this book five stars. It affected me on so many levels. I mean, gut-wrenching, sobbing, tears streaming down my face affected me...and I'm not a crier. It touched my soul. It was filled with not only everything I was looking for, but everything I needed—romance, heartache, poetry, beauty, humor, friendship, family and love, so much love that it hurt my heart!

This book is so much more than a love story. It's packed with important life lessons. If you've ever lost someone, loved someone, needed someone or wanted someone, this book will affect you, too. I am awed and inspired. I read this on my ereader, but I'm getting it in paperback too. I need to pass it around to my friends.

I need to dog-ear the pages. I need to highlight words and phrases. I need to share it with my children. This may be my favorite read this year! I can't recommend it enough!
