

It's Not Summer Without You is the second of three famous books about Belly and her feelings for Conrad and his brother, Jeremiah. Conrad is now at college, and he and Belly are dating. But, Conrad's mother is ill, and Conrad loves her very much. Is this the right time for him and Belly?

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	CEFR level	Story word count	Headwords
S	Pre-A1	400-600	350
1	A1	1,000-1,600	550
2	A1+	3,000-5,000	700
3	A2	7,000-10,000	1,000
4	A2+	11,000-14,000	1,200
5	B1	15,000-18,000	1,600
6	B1+	18,000-22,000	2,000
7	B2	22,000-26,000	2,500

Lexile measure 550L

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 Contains adult content

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4

It's Not Summer Without You

Jenny Han



People in the story



Belly



Laurel



Conrad



Jeremiah

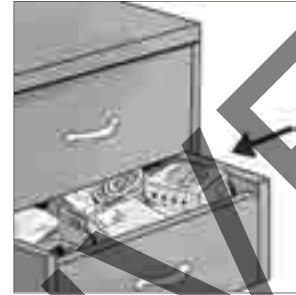


Susannah



Adam (Mr. Fisher)

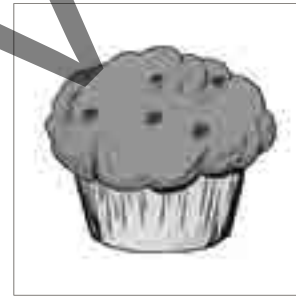
New words



drawer



infinity necklace



muffin



shoulder



suit



surf

Note about the story

It's Not Summer Without You is the second of three famous books about Belly and her feelings for Conrad and his brother, Jeremiah. It follows *The Summer I Turned Pretty* (also available in Penguin Readers, Level 3), which has become a TV show. *The Summer I Turned Pretty* finished with Conrad beginning to show his feelings for Belly.

In this story, Conrad, who goes to college, is in summer school. Students have to go to summer school classes when they aren't doing well enough at college, or (like Conrad) haven't completed their year. If they don't pass the summer school exams, these students have to leave college.

In the United States of America (USA), most schools have dances, called "**proms***," at the end of the year. Many students, like Belly, think that the prom is one of the most important moments in their lives. They buy expensive clothes, take photographs of themselves, and travel there in nice cars because they want it to be really special.

Before-reading questions

- 1 Look at the pictures in the book and read the back cover. Will Belly still be dating Conrad at the end of the story, do you think?
- 2 Look at the picture on page 17. Belly and Conrad are going to Belly's prom. Will they have a good time, do you think?
- 3 What is life for students in the USA like, do you think?

*Definitions of words in **bold** can be found in the glossary on pages 78–80.

CHAPTER ONE

Waiting

Every year, when school finished in June, we put all our things in the car and drove straight to the summer house in Cousins. That house was my favorite place in the world, and it was the only place that I ever wanted to be. My mom, my brother Steven, and I never missed a summer there with Conrad and his brother, Jeremiah, and their mom, Susannah. They were our summer family. Susannah was my mom's best friend, and I loved her like a second mom. It was her house, and she started inviting my mom there before I was even born.

I always followed the boys around, trying to **hang out**. Jeremiah was my friend, but Conrad and Steven just thought that I was a little **kid**. I was in love with Conrad, but he never even noticed me until last summer, when he kissed me.

When I got home at the end of last summer, I waited for Conrad to call. August became September, school started, and I still waited. We only kissed so it wasn't like Conrad was my boyfriend. And now he was at college, where there were a million other girls, all prettier and cleverer than me.

I thought about him every minute of every day. What did our kiss mean? We couldn't go back to how things were between us. I knew that I couldn't. Last summer, everything changed between me and Conrad, and between

me and Jeremiah. So when Conrad didn't call, I only had to think about the way that he looked at me after he kissed me. I knew that there was hope; I just had to wait.

The call came the second week of September. Steven and I were fighting about what to watch on TV. The phone rang, and neither Steven nor I moved to answer it. My mother picked it up in her office. She brought the phone to the living room, and she said, "Belly, it's for you. It's Conrad." Then she smiled.

My heart started **beating** loudly in my chest, and I could hear the ocean in my ears. Conrad was calling me, and it felt so good. I took the phone and walked to the stairs.

I sat down, and I said, "Hi."

I tried to keep the smile off my face because I didn't want him to hear it on the phone.

"Hi," he said. "How are you?"

"I'm OK."

"You won't believe this," he said. "My **roommate snores** even louder than you do."

Conrad called again the next night, and the night after. We talked for hours at a time. Steven did not understand. "Why is Conrad calling you?" he asked.

"He likes me, and I like him," I replied.

Steven looked sick. "He's lost his mind," he said, shaking his head.

"Is it *so* impossible that Conrad likes me?" I asked him.

"Yes," he said. "It is *so* impossible."

And it really was. It was like a dream. After all those

years of loving him and wanting him, Conrad was calling me. He liked talking to me. He thought that I was funny, and I understood him. He wasn't my boyfriend yet, but we had something that was really special.

A few weeks after we started speaking on the phone, I told Conrad how I wasn't doing well in **math**. Then I felt bad for talking about it. I was telling him about my small problems, when I knew that Susannah had **cancer**.

"Sorry," I said. "I shouldn't talk about math when your mom's sick."

"Don't be sorry. You can say anything to me," he said. "And, Belly, my mom is getting better." He sounded so hopeful, and I felt even more love for him in that moment.

I said, "Yeah, I heard that from my mom yesterday. That's really good news."



"So, has your teacher taught you about infinity yet?" he asked.

From that day, Conrad started teaching me math. In the beginning, I didn't really listen to what he was saying. I just liked the sound of his voice. But then he asked me questions, and I didn't want to get the answers wrong. I never

After-reading questions

- 1 Look back at your answers to “Before-reading questions 1 and 2”. Were you right?
- 2 Is Belly good at listening to Conrad, do you think? Why/Why not? Find examples in the story.
- 3 In the hotel, Conrad says to Belly, “When I said that I never wanted you, it isn’t true.” Why does he leave without showing any sign of this the next morning, do you think?
- 4 At the end of the story, Belly chooses to go home with Jeremiah. Was this the right thing to do, do you think?
- 5 What do you think will happen between Belly, Conrad, and Jeremiah in the third book, *We’ll Always Have Summer*?

Exercises

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 Put these sentences in the correct order in your notebook.

Conrad ...

- a starts college.
- b has an amazing night with Belly in Cousins.
- c didn’t want to hang out with Belly when she was younger.
- d goes on a date with Belly, her mom, and her brother.
- e helps Belly with math.
- f kisses Belly for the first time.

CHAPTER TWO

- 2 Match the two parts of these sentences in your notebook.

Example: 1 – b

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Belly was sleeping while | a Belly found an old box of hot chocolate. |
| 2 Conrad was waiting in the car while | b Conrad drove through the night to her. |
| 3 Conrad was making a fire while | c Belly ran down the front steps and across the garden. |
| 4 Conrad was sleeping when | d Belly whispered, “Conrad, there’s only you.” |

CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR

- 3 Match the words with their definitions in your notebook. Then write *adjective, noun, or verb*.

break up	hug	funeral
basement	prom	breathe
		desperate

- 1*break up*..... If you do this with your boyfriend or girlfriend, it means you stop seeing them.*verb*.....
- 2 a big party for students at the end of the school year
- 3 to take air into and out of your body through your nose and mouth
- 4 when people come together to burn the body of a dead person or put it under the ground
- 5 a room under a house
- 6 when you put your arms around someone to show them that you love them or like them a lot
- 7 when you want or need something very much