

“The propulsive, riveting novel that started it all.”

—karen m. mcmanus, *New York Times* bestselling author
of *One of Us Is Lying* and *Two Can Keep a Secret*



cracked
up to be

courtney
summers

new york times bestselling author of *sadie*



1. Have you ever liked an “unlikable” female character? Why do you think female characters who defy certain expectations are often perceived or dismissed as “unlikable”?
2. Why do you think Chris and Becky stay friends with Parker when everyone else has moved on?
3. In the introduction, the author says, “Parker Fadley was determined to make sure everyone hated her.” Do you hate Parker? Does your opinion of her change throughout the book?
4. What do you think of Parker’s plan to alienate everyone? Does it work? Do you think Parker’s actions throughout the book are justified?
5. What do you think of the pressure teenagers—particularly young women—are under to be “perfect”? Is it helpful or harmful to hold them to certain standards?
6. Do you think the way Parker reveals what happened the night of Chris’s party is an effective way to tell her story? What does it suggest about Parker’s mental state?
7. Parker’s quest for perfection prevents her from speaking up when she’s struggling. Why is it important to be open about mental health? What would openness have changed for Parker? Could the adults around her have been more supportive?
8. What does Bailey bring out in Parker?
9. Why do you think Jake wanted to be part of Parker’s life? Do you think anything will happen between Parker and Jake in the future?
10. Where do you see Parker after the last page of the book? What steps do you think she’ll need to take to work through her guilt, accept the forgiveness and love of others, and allow herself a chance at happiness?

Discussion Questions

