

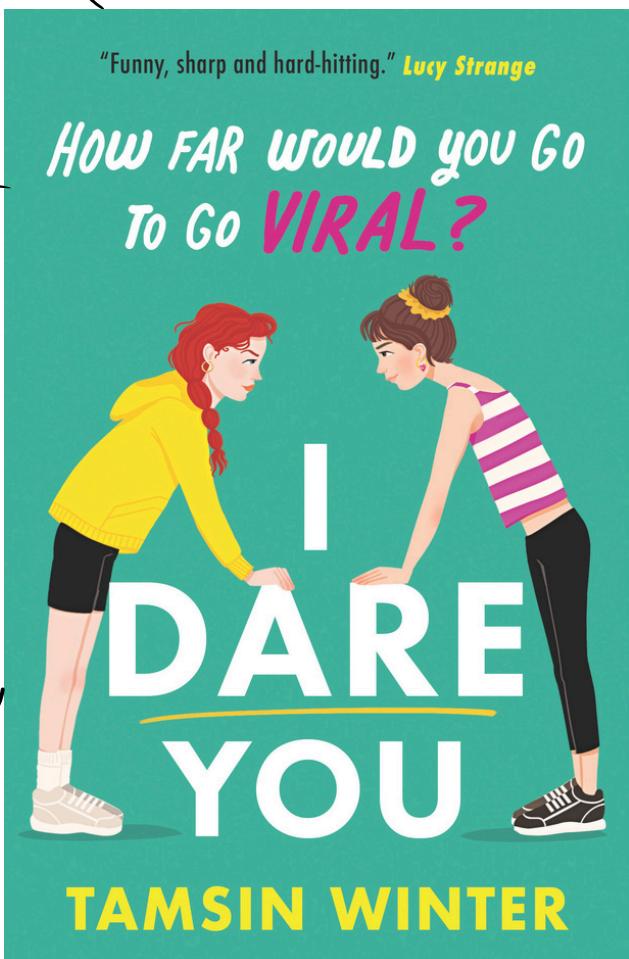
What do you expect from a book described as 'hard-hitting'? How do you think an author might do this in a book for young people?

Which online challenges have you seen or heard about? Predict challenges take part in based on this tag line.

What are some of the things that could go wrong during online dares and challenges?

What does the word dare suggest? When can dares be harmless? When can they become dangerous?

What does this illustration suggest about the characters and their relationship? Who do you think will be the narrator?



Have you ever read a book by Tamsin Winter? If so, how does this look similar or different?

What is revealed in the blurb
of I Dare You?



WILLOW AND ALMA ARE BEST FRIENDS...

They want fame and fortune, and Willow is determined that the best way to get it is to go viral. So they start filming dares. And as their challenges get more extreme, their fanbase grows:

Duct-taping themselves to a wall? 
Eating super-hot chillis? 
Waxing an eyebrow off? 

And if they get in a bit of trouble, so what? It's totally worth it. But if they really want to prove themselves, they have to go all-out. So they come up with the perfect idea... An idea that causes more than a bit of trouble. An idea that might destroy not just their ambitions but their entire friendship for good.



"A shocking, poignant, powerful read with a message all young teens need to hear."

Cathy Cassidy



Cover illustration by Amy Blackwell

ISBN 978-1-80507-572-1

£7.99



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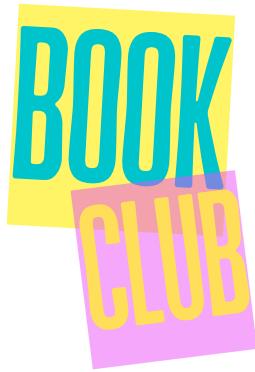
www.usborne.com/fiction

What do you think might be their 'perfect idea' for going viral?

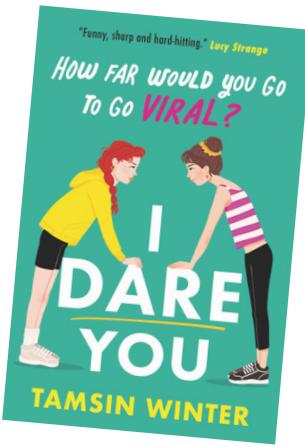
Why do you think publishers include quotes on book covers? What do you think of this one?



How are the covers for Tamsin Winter's books similar to this one? Which one is your favourite and why?



Discussion Questions



1. What were your first impressions of the main characters? Did any of those opinions change as the story went on?
2. Did the opening chapters of the book hook you in?
3. Why do you think dares are so hard for Alma to refuse, even when she knows they're risky or wrong?
4. Which character do you feel most sympathy for? Is there a character you found frustrating or unlikeable and why?
5. How does peer pressure work in the story? Is it always obvious, or is it sometimes subtle?
6. Were there moments where you wanted a character to make a different choice? What do you think stopped them?
7. How realistic did the situations in the book feel to you? Did anything feel familiar to real life?
8. The book explores friendship. Which aspects of Willow and Alma's friendship felt healthy, and which felt unhealthy?
9. What are Willow's reasons for craving online fame?
10. How does the author build tension?
11. Did you enjoy the dual narrative? Why do you think the author chose to write from both Willow's and Alma's point of view?
12. Were there any moments that made you uncomfortable? Why do you think the author included them?
13. What message do you think the book sends about responsibility - both for yourself and for others?
14. Do you think adults in the book are aware of what's really going on? Should they be? What did you make of the parents (and step-parent) in the book?
15. Discuss how the ending made you feel: hopeful, uneasy, satisfied, something else?
16. If you could give one character advice, who would it be and what would you say?
17. Which moments did you find funny?
18. Has reading this book changed the way you think about dares, challenges, or peer pressure?
19. Would you recommend this book to someone your age? Who do you think would get the most out of it?
20. What is one question this book leaves you thinking about?



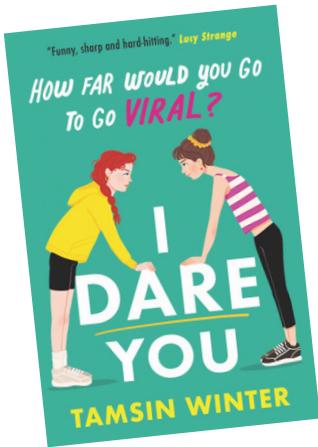
READING THE PROLOGUE

AFTER

I've heard people talk about the crackle and roar of flames. But I don't remember that. Maybe because the sound was drowned out by the smoke alarm. But I remember the intensity of the heat, the chaos of it. It seemed almost funny at first, like I could put a wet towel over where it was burning and the fire would go out and both of us would laugh our heads off and say, "Woah, that was close!" or "Thank God for that!" or something.

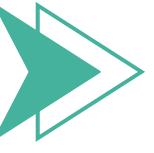
But then in a split second the flames soared upwards and it was like I blinked for too long and suddenly they were consuming the room – gulping up the table, licking the walls, spewing onto the carpet and then stretching all the way up to the ceiling. People think in situations like that, you act quickly and do the right thing, but it wasn't like that. Not for me. I didn't even think anything. I just stood there, frozen, my mind blank with terror. I remember the thick smoke billowing towards the window, and how weird that seemed to me, like it too wanted to escape. And hearing her scream. That's what I remember the most.

1. What is your immediate reaction to this opening? How does it hook you in?
2. How does this extract make you feel? Which words or phrases stand out to you?
3. How is the fire described? Can you find any techniques the author has used?
4. Why do you think the author begins the novel after the tragic event has already happened?
5. How does the shift from thinking the fire is manageable to realising it is out of control affect the tension?
6. Why do you think the final line focuses on what the narrator remembers most?
7. What is your impression of the narrator? How did she feel in the moment, and how does she feel remembering it?
8. What questions does this prologue leave you with about the rest of the story?



WRITING PROMPTS



-  Write a story about a character who dares their friend to do something dangerous and then regrets it.
-  Describe a character or characters taking part in an online dare or challenge that goes horribly wrong.
-  Write a letter to the CEO of a big tech company persuading them to remove dangerous and life-threatening challenges from their social media app.
-  Write a story about a character who finds the courage to stands up to a friend.
-  Describe a fire getting out of control. You can set your description anywhere – perhaps a forest fire, a house fire, a campfire, a block of flats. Use lots of techniques like personification, simile, alliteration and sensory language to make your description tense and powerful.