

“This necessary and emotionally complex addition to the body of middle-grade literature offers readers a positive, complex, and courageous portrayal of burgeoning sexuality and relationships within the world of junior high.” — *Booklist*

“Blake creates a sensitive portrayal of a preteen who's begun to figure herself out but isn't sure how she meshes with others, and of the bumbling and overstressed, but well-meaning, friends and family around her.” — *The Horn Book*

“Blake captures all the exhilaration of a first crush without shying away from Ivy's confusion....The sisters' relationship is one of the great rewards of this novel that includes a large and vivid cast of secondary characters, who give the story its sense of abundant texture.” — *The New York Times Book Review*

“There are some books that we never forget. This is one of those books. Impactful, emotional, and important.” — Erin Entrada Kelly, Newbery award-winning author of *Hello, Universe*

“A tenderhearted novel that should be in the hands of every reader.” —Kat Yeh, author of *The Truth About Twinkie Pie* and *The Way to Bea*

“Ashley Herring Blake's novel captures the confusion, thrills and heartache of a first crush so perfectly that you will hold this book close to your heart.” —Lisa Yee, author of the DC Super Hero Girls series

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- 2019 Stonewall Honor Book
- Kirkus Best Middle Grade Books of 2018
- SLJ Best Books 2018
- NPR's Best Books of 2018
- 2019 Texas Lonestar Nominee
- 2020 Florida Sunshine State Young Readers Award Nominee
- 2020 Maine Student Book Award Nominee
- 2020 Oklahoma Sequoyah Book Award Nominee
- 2021 North Carolina Young Adult Book Award Nominee

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Book Club Guide](#)
- [IVY ABERDEEN'S LETTER TO THE WORLD by Ashley Herring Blake Read by Chloe Cannon - Audiobook Excerpt](#)
- [LGBTQ Reads - BETTER KNOW AN AUTHOR: ASHLEY HERRING BLAKE](#)

*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

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Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
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A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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