



[Fallout](#) by Ellen Hopkins

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Margaret K. McElderry, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2013

*Age Range: 14+ (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 9+ (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Hunter, Autumn, and Summer—three of Kristina Snow's five children—live in different homes, with different guardians and different last names. They share only a predisposition for addiction and a host of troubled feelings toward the mother who barely knows them, a mother who has been riding with the monster, crank, for twenty years.

Hunter is nineteen, angry, getting by in college with a job at a radio station, a girlfriend he loves in the only way he knows how, and the occasional party. He's struggling to understand why his mother left him, when he unexpectedly meets his rapist father, and things get even more complicated. Autumn lives with her single aunt and alcoholic grandfather. When her aunt gets married, and the only family she's ever known crumbles, Autumn's compulsive habits lead her to drink. And the consequences of her decisions suggest that there's more of Kristina in her than she'd like to believe. Summer doesn't know about Hunter, Autumn, or their two youngest brothers, Donald and David. To her, family is only abuse at the hands of her father's girlfriends and a slew of foster parents. Doubt and loneliness overwhelm her, and she, too, teeters on the edge of her mother's notorious legacy. As each searches for real love and true family, they find themselves pulled toward the one person who links them together—Kristina, Bree, mother, addict. But it is in each other, and in themselves, that they find the trust, the courage, the hope to break the cycle.

Told in three voices and punctuated by news articles chronicling the family's story, FALLOUT is the stunning conclusion to the trilogy begun by CRANK and GLASS, and a testament to the harsh reality that addiction is never just one person's problem.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Simply put: if you liked [Crank](#) (2004) and [Glass](#) (2007), this trilogy finale will not disappoint. Hopkins shifts the point of view from meth-user Kristina to her three teenage kids; it's a brilliant tactic that shows just how deeply others are affected by a single person's addiction." —[Booklist](#)

Updated 6.17.25

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“*Crank* (2004) and *Glass* (2007) readers will relish this look at Kristina’s three oldest children, now teenagers, all conceived in the chaos of crystal-meth addiction...The clipped free verse sharply conveys fragmented and dissociated emotions.” —[Kirkus](#)

“Fans will recognize the author's trademark style: this is a gritty, gripping collection of free verse and concrete poems...In the end, readers will be drawn into the lives of each of these struggling teens as they deal with complicated home lives, first loves, and a mostly absent mother who "wants to love them," but is too damaged to do so.” —[Publisher’s Weekly](#)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Texas Tayshas High School Reading List
- Joan F. Kaywell Book Award - Honoree (FL)

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Reading Group Guide](#)
- [Book Trailer](#)
- [Author Website](#)

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

[KIDS’ RIGHT TO READ PROTESTS EFFORTS TO CENSOR YA AUTHOR ELLEN HOPKINS](#)

[NCAC DEMANDS RETURN OF 13 BOOKS BY ELLEN HOPKINS TO HERNANDO SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARIES](#)

[NCAC PROTESTS CANCELLATION OF ELLEN HOPKINS APPEARANCE AT TEEN LIT FEST IN TEXAS](#)

AUTHOR STATEMENT

“Censorship comes from a place of fear. We fear that which is different, what we cannot comprehend. Books gift us with understanding, empower us with knowledge. So, obviously, would-be censors have it all wrong.” —Ellen Hopkins

*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

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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