



***Forbidden* by Tabitha Suzuma**

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers (June 26, 2012)

ISBN: 9781442419964 (Trade Paperback)

\*Age Range: 16+ (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 11+ (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

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**BOOK SYNOPSIS**

Seventeen-year-old Lochan and sixteen-year-old Maya have always felt more like friends than siblings. Together they have stepped in for their alcoholic, wayward mother to take care of their three younger siblings. As de facto parents to the little ones, Lochan and Maya have had to grow up fast. And the stress of their lives—and the way they understand each other so completely—has also brought them closer than two siblings would ordinarily be. So close, in fact, that they have fallen in love. Their clandestine romance quickly blooms into deep, desperate love. They know their relationship is wrong and cannot possibly continue. And yet, they cannot stop what feels so incredibly right. As the novel careens toward an explosive and shocking finale, only one thing is certain: A love this devastating has no happy ending.

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**REVIEWS AND PRAISE**

“What a beautiful, sad, fantastic novel!”—[The Guardian](#)

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**AWARDS AND ACCOLADES**

- ALA Quick Picks Nominee
- ALA/YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults - Nominee

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**MEDIA AND RESOURCES**

<https://www.simonandschuster.net/books/Forbidden/Tabitha-Suzuma/9781442419964>

<https://cahrefs.blogspot.com/2013/06/interview-with-tabitha-suzuma-author-of.html>

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**AUTHOR STATEMENT**

“I don’t think teenagers should be shielded from any topic because encountering taboo or controversial subjects is part of their development, of learning about the world. It is part of natural human curiosity and part of growing up.” —Tabitha Suzuma

**Updated March 18, 2026**

Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing

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## **\*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

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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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