

When the World Tips Over

AUTHOR
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RECOMMENDED FOR: Upper Secondary
(Language, Violence, Sexual References, Suicide Ideation,
Drug and Alcohol References)

SYNOPSIS

Welcome to Paradise Springs, Northern California—a hot, dusty, half-magical, wine-country town where there are so many grapes fermenting at one time, you get drunk from breathing the air; where devil winds blow so hard they whip your sense away. A town where every fairy tale you’ve ever read could be set . . . and ‘home’ to the family Falls.

When a strange, enigmatic, rainbow-haired girl shows up in their fantastical hometown, it sends the lives of Fall brothers Wynton and Miles and their sister, Dizzy, into tumult. With road trips, rivalries, family curses, love stories within love stories within love stories, and sorrows and joys passed from generation to generation, this is the intricate, luminous tale of a family’s complicated past and present. And only in telling their stories can they hope to rewrite their futures.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jandy Nelson’s debut, *The Sky is Everywhere*, published to global critical acclaim in 2010, and has since been adapted into a film on Apple TV+. Her second novel, *I’ll Give You the Sun*, was a *New York Times* bestseller, winner of the Michael L. Printz Award and a Stonewall Honor, and shortlisted for the Waterstones Children’s Book Prize; it has also been optioned for film by Warner Bros. *The Sky is Everywhere* and *I’ll Give You the Sun* have been translated into more than 38 languages and sold over a million copies worldwide.

Jandy lives in San Francisco and is madly in love with California and how it teeters on the edge of the continent.

Follow Jandy on Twitter [@jandynelson](https://twitter.com/jandynelson) or visit her online at www.jandynelson.com.

STUDY NOTES

- Based on the title only, what do you think this story is about? Based on the cover, what do you think this story is about? Did your ideas change after seeing the cover?
 - How do you think it will begin/end? Revisit your answer after reading the story to see if your predictions were correct.
- Discuss the title of the book. Do you think this is a good title? Why or why not? If you were asked to choose an alternative title for the book, what would it be? Remember, a good title should capture the audience’s attention and give them some idea of what the book is about.
 - Write your own story using the title of the book.
- Look at the front cover, read the blurb on the back to gather clues and use any prior knowledge you may have to

predict some events that might happen in this story.

WHILE READING

- Who do you think the audience for this book is? Why?
- Literary techniques allow a writer to convey a deeper meaning in their text. What techniques can you find in *When the World Tips Over*? Eg. metaphor, imagery, alliteration, personification, etc.
- What deeper meaning can you draw from the text?