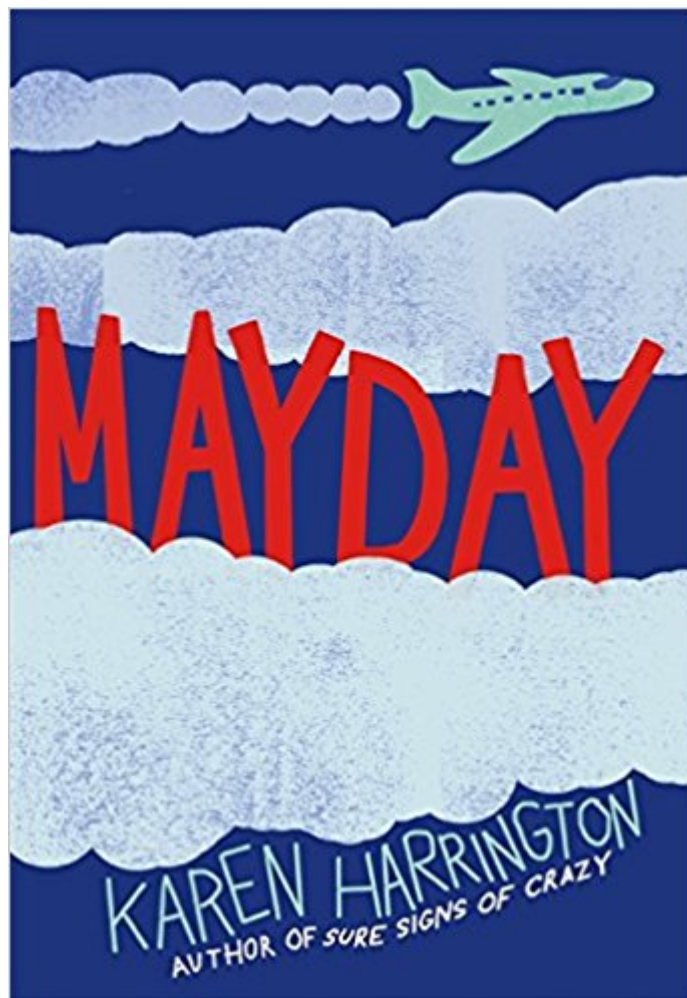




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# Mayday



## Synopsis

A powerful coming-of-age story about the importance of finding your voice Wayne Kovok lives in a world of After. After his uncle in the army was killed overseas. After Wayne and his mother survived a plane crash while coming back from the funeral. After he lost his voice. Wayne has always used his love of facts to communicate ("Did you know more people die each year from shaking a vending machine than from shark attacks?"). Without his voice, how will he wow the prettiest girl in school? How will he stand up to his drill-sergeant grandfather? And how will he share his hopes with his deadbeat dad? It's not until Wayne loses his voice completely that he realizes how much he doesn't say. Filled with Karen Harrington's signature heart and humor, Mayday tackles an unforgettable journey of family and friendship.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 352 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (May 24, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316298018

ISBN-13: 978-0316298018

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #17,279 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in [Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Planes & Aviation](#) #22 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Illness](#) #26 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying](#)

Age Range: 10 - 13 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Gr 5-8-Wayne Kovok is a descendant of Dalton war heroes from the Revolution to the present, as his grandpa reminds him constantly-though he also reminds Wayne that he is a Kovok, not a Dalton. His dad, the Flee, promises trips to concerts but shows up with T-shirts after he's gone by himself-if he shows up at all. Finally, there's Wayne's sort of girlfriend, who clearly thinks she can do much better. Wayne fights all this negativity with an encyclopedia of facts to plug into awkward silences. So when he and his mom survive a plane crash, following the burial of his Uncle Reed at Arlington,

and Wayne loses his voice, communication with his family gets even harder. Wayne's is an authentic, funny, and sometimes sarcastic teen voice, which comes through clearly, even when he can't speak out loud. As the narrator, he is the fulcrum of the story, but other characters are defined, distinct, and developed. Family relationships are realistic, sometimes painfully so, as Wayne fights to find his own voice both figuratively and literally. The story is a bit long, with a few too many strands, all of which are resolved in the end, somewhat improbably. However, the positive aspects outweigh the few flaws in this sweet tale of survival, heroism, and the search for strength. VERDICT A solid purchase for middle graders looking for more realistic fiction.-Katherine Koenig, The Ellis School, PA  
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\* "A compelling exploration of life after a disaster." -Â Publisher's Weekly, starred review  
Â \* "A fine character-driven tale that slowly grows to a crescendo of satisfaction." - Kirkus Reviews, starred review  
Â "MAYDAY is an utterly engaging and heartwarming novel of loss and redemption. Wayne Kovok is a natural-born wonder." - Mark Goldblatt, best-selling author of Twerp and Finding The Worm.  
Praise for Mayday:  
\* "A fine character-driven tale that slowly grows to a crescendo of satisfaction." -Kirkus Reviews (starred review)  
\* "Wayne is an appealing protagonist with a strong voice who develops believably over the difficult months, as do the other characters. A well-done book on all levels." -Publishers Weekly (starred review)

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