

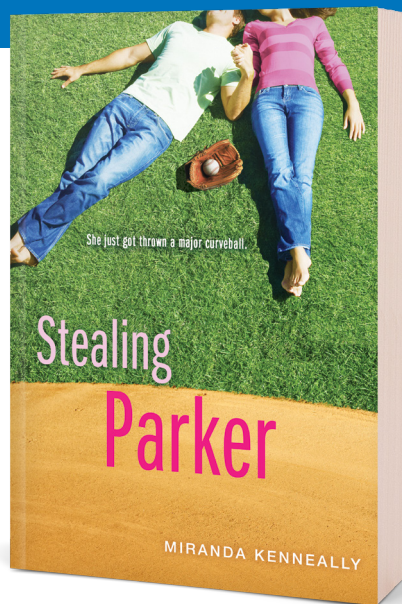
Stealing Parker by Miranda Kenneally

Discussion Guide

Who's the real Parker Shelton? Dutiful daughter? Shameless slut? All-star athlete? Even she can't be sure.

After her family scandal rocks their conservative small town, 17-year-old Parker Shelton goes overboard trying to prove that she won't turn out like her mother who left town with another woman. The all-star third-baseman quits the softball team, drops 20 pounds and starts making out with guys—a lot. But hitting on the hot new assistant baseball coach might be taking it a step too far...especially when he starts flirting back.

Red-hot author Miranda Kenneally hits one out of the park in this return to *Catching Jordan's* Hundred Oaks High.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Growing up in Tennessee, Miranda Kenneally dreamed of becoming an Atlanta Brave, a country singer (cliché!), or a UN interpreter. Instead she writes and works for the State Department in Washington, D.C., where George W. Bush once used her shoulder as an armrest. She is also the creator of the website DearTeenMe.com. Visit Miranda online at www.mirandakenneally.com.

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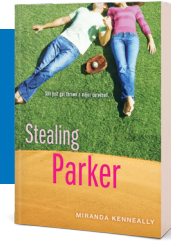
“A realistic portrait of a teen who, feeling abandoned by her family and betrayed by her church, searches for love in forbidden places. Another engrossing romance from Miranda Kenneally with a hero who will melt your heart.”

—Jennifer Echols, National Award-Winning author of *Such A Rush*

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. At the beginning of *Stealing Parker*, Parker has given up the things she cares about because she doesn't want people to compare her to her mother, who recently came out, divorced her father, and left town with another woman. Parker also kisses lots of guys to show she's not like her mother. Do you understand why Parker behaves this way? Is it understandable or inexcusable?
2. When Parker meets Brian, the new coach of the baseball team, she discovers he's 23 while she's only 17. Regardless, they are attracted to each other. Do you think age or position should factor when deciding whether to pursue a relationship?
3. Brian is 23 and a teacher. He should not be entering into a relationship with a student and he knows that. Why do you think Brian is interested in Parker? What changes during the course of the story that makes him pursue her?
4. Parker's mother tells her that the only thing that matters is what Parker wants. Do you agree with this statement? Or do you feel life needs balance?
5. During the book, Parker discovers that her best friend, Drew, has a crush on Will "Corndog". Do you think just because Drew likes Corndog, that Parker should put aside her feelings for him to support her friend? Are Drew's actions understandable or inexcusable? Are both Parker and Drew at fault?
6. Brian leaves town without saying goodbye to Parker. Where do you think he is now? How do you think his relationship with Parker changed him, for better or worse?
7. How does Parker develop throughout the course of the story?
8. What do you think will happen between Parker and Will "Corndog"?
9. How do you think Parker will approach friendships and relationships in the future?

Enrich your book discussion group with these discussion questions and delve deeper into the issues presented in Stealing Parker. The guide is free and may be printed out or photocopied for use in the classroom, library, bookstore, or at home.