



# The Summer Remains

*Seth King*

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## **The Summer Remains** Seth King

Twenty-four-year-old Summer Johnson knows two things. The first is that due to a quickly worsening medical condition, she faces a risky surgery in three months' time that may or may not end in her death. The second is that she would like to fall in love before then.

As spring sinks into her namesake season on the Florida coastline, Summer plays the odds and downloads a new dating app - and after one intriguing message from a beautiful surfer named Cooper Nichols, it becomes clear that the story of what may be her last few months under the sun is about to be completely revised. All she has to do now is write something worth reading.

Tender, honest, devastating and triumphant, *The Summer Remains* explores a very human battle being waged in a very digital age: the search for a love that will outlast this temporary borrowing of bones. In an era when many feel compelled to share and re-share anything about everything, prepare to feel a love so special, you will want to hug it close and make it yours forever.

## **The Summer Remains Details**

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Author : Seth King

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# From Reader Review The Summer Remains for online ebook

**Jen~KU Book Reviews says**

\*\*\*UPDATE\*\*\*

Life changing.

Soul inspiring.

Chest hurting.

Heart healing.

“Let love destroy you—God knows life is going to anyway.”

Everyone has scars. Some are visible, others aren't. This is a story of a girl, so broken on the outside, but inside—inside she is beautiful, smart, loving, kind and just glows. Summer Martin has a life threatening illness. She lost out on so many experiences, one being love. Her one wish is to find that one true love and cherish it, hold on so tight.

She meets Cooper through a dating app and little does she know he's about to give her the summer of her life. He is beautiful in every way but wears his scars on the inside. He too has been through so much that your heart hurts for him too.

So a love story of all love stories begins and when I say you will feel every emotion with your whole heart, I'm not even stretching the truth.

“You are so beautiful,” he continued, his voice catching in his throat. “You are so special and important and elegant and smart and kind and worthwhile, and you are so much better than me and everyone else I've ever known in every single way, and you are the only truth I have ever found in this lying world, and I love you to the floor of me, and it breaks me to imagine a future without you in it, and I just want you to know all that, just because.”

Did I say breathtaking? You know those books that you just want to hug and love and give to every person you know. You want to bottle the feeling you had while you're reading and tattoo them in your heart and brain. Seth King wrote a book that changed the way I look at life. It reminded me of what matters. The good in people and the power to change your mindset. You get one chance. One life. Every second, every day. Make it count. Smile hard, laugh often and love with your whole heart. Never let the chance to tell the people you love how much you love them, and prove it. With words, actions, make a difference.

I'm going to turn to Seth's own words.

“Writing is like throwing your soul onto a page and then going, ‘Here, everyone, hope you love it!’”

Well, he got me because I LOVED it.

6++++ I want to memorize this book and hug it and buy it for every single person I know.

Breathtaking. Heart-warming and soul crushing at the same time. Seth King is now a go-to author to me. He made me see life, love, heartbreak, and living in a whole new light. What an incredible journey and I will be rereading this one many times.

Do. Not. Miss. It. Phenomenal. I am in love with this story.

Standing ovation!!!

Full review to come with blog tour!

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## **Christy says**

### **5 stars!**

*The Summer Remains* is a powerful read. It's not only a book that made me feel, it's a book that made me think, made me reevaluate the way I see people, treat people and I'll be honest- not many books have that effect on me. For that reason alone, I would give this book 5 stars. Add in the fact that the writing had a great flow, it was sad and uplifting at the same time, and was just an all around profound and beautiful read makes me want to give it more than 5.

Summer Johnson is one of the most perfect heroines. I liked everything about her. She's 24 and has been living with a life threatening condition her entire life. She has a feeding tube, she has scars, but she doesn't let that dictate who she is and what she wants. She wants love. She wants someone to see her for her. She wants one perfect summer to be herself and find that one person who will love her and accept her for who she is. Then she meets Cooper. The boy who she thinks will change her life forever. Well, the thing is- she's the one who changes him.

Cooper is the opposite of Summer. He appears to be perfect on the outside, and physically he is. But on the inside, he's scarred. Cooper and Summer develop a beautiful friendship that turns into so much more. I loved watching their relationship grow.

"You are so beautiful," he continued, his voice catching in his throat. "You are so special and important and elegant and smart and kind and worthwhile, and you are so much better than me and everyone else I've ever known in every single way, and you are the only truth I have ever found in this lying world, and I love you to the floor of me, and it breaks me to imagine a future without you in it, and I just want you to know all that, just because."

?This book is one I can say with absolute certainty I will never forget. There were lots of tears, but it also left me with a sense of peace. Cooper and Summer's love story is one you don't want to miss out on! And I can't

wait to read the novella that was recently released- I had a bit of a soft spot for Hank :)

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## **Carol (StarAngel's Reviews) Allen says**

### **4 When will I come out of this book coma? Stars**

This book just gutted me. Not only was it an emotional read, but full of philosophy that really got me thinking.

But I have to say what really got me was the author's note at the back of book explaining why this book was written and why it's a personal journey.

Damn...this book absolutely left me speechless and not thinking right.

Why only 4? Well, to me, around 1/2 way in it did start to get a bit slow. But overall, I enjoyed this book immensely.

This is a great book if you want to spend the day crying!

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## **Brandi says**

### **4.5 Stars**

How can I describe this book...

Emotional. Heartbreaking. Beautiful. Powerful. Inspiring.

*"Comparison is the enemy of happiness, stop measuring yourself against the world."*

To be honest - This book broke my heart. I flat out sobbed. For hours. After a few hours sleep, with still swollen eyes, I still can't put into words how hauntingly beautiful this story was.

Summer's life has never been easy. Born with a rare, life threatening condition, every day is a struggle. She carries scars on the inside and outside. At 24 with her health is deteriorating, her only hope is a risky surgery scheduled for the end of the summer. So with death looming, Summer decides to make the most of what could be her last summer.

Summer meets Cooper. These two together = magic.

That's all you get from me. There are a few things that bugged me, but this was truly a beautiful story. If you aren't scared of a few tears,(or a lot in my case) take a chance on this book.

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## Michelle says

[image error]

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## ✿kawehi.reviews says

? I received an ARC via Southern Belle PR in exchange for an honest review. Thank you! ! ?

*The Summer Remains* was an emotionally charged read that left me speechless and in tears.

I'm normally not one of those sentimental and emotional people when it comes to books, but this one really touched me.

Author Seth King is a definite force to be reckoned with, as he is able to pull your heart apart by the seams and put it back together in a bittersweet fashion!!

I loved this story as I was reminded of our precious moments in this life and not taking anything for granted. Summer and Cooper's story astounded me with its portrayal how in one blink of an eye, everything can change or be taken away!! Such a strong yet delicate testament of growing pains and undying friendship and true love!

I seriously recommend this gem of a read as it brought forth a lot of hidden aggression and nostalgia for me and made me re-think and analyze things from a different perspective.

You see...Three years ago, I had lost my little brother. If he were alive today, he would be 19 years old and was unexpectedly taken away from my family and myself. Although I miss him everyday and still get teary eyed over his absence, his memories will forever prevail in my and the rest of my family's hearts.

*The Summers Remains* was definitely an epiphany for me as it allowed me to heal and cope with my personal loss and revel in life's defining moments and its utter heartbreaks, lessons, and wreckage.

*"Dying was easy, but living was the most challenging adventure of all."*

Thank you Scott! I look forward to more reading ventures from you in the future!

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## Jennifer Kyle says

**4.5 "This Is Not a Cancer Book" Stars**

Warning: YOU WILL UGLY CRY DURING THIS READ

Summer Johnson suffers from a condition called Esophageal Intresia which has been killing her since birth. She agrees to a surgery that will give her an 80/20 chance of surviving her condition scheduled at the end of summer. Summer decides to enjoy her summer to the best of her abilities and has just one wish.

***"I, Summer Johnson, Purveyor of Pragmatism, Lover of Logic, Ultimate Believer in the Rational, and Person Who Was Maybe Going to Die Soon, wanted to drown in someone. "***

Signing on to a dating app, Summer meets Cooper who is a wonderful character and suffering in his own right. Summer and Cooper spend the summer together and fall in love while she struggles with telling him about her upcoming surgery.

There is a lot going on with Summer beside not telling Cooper fully about her condition, she faces public stares about her scars and disabilities and helps others handle their conditions. The pressure of her social media account of what her peers were posting about marriages etc. had her wishing for similar Facebook milestones of her own.

***"Why did my generation have to throw our lives under lights to make them feel real."***

***"Comparison is the enemy of happiness."***

Cooper's love for Summer and words to her were just beautiful.

***"You know, we all have scars, Summer if yours are only on the outside, you should consider yourself lucky."***

When Cooper learns the truth about Summer's condition and pending surgery, he stands by her as she faces her mortality head on. The author exceeded my expectations on delivering quotes that were unforgettable.

***"We were soul mates, this boy on the cusp of forever, this girl on the end of oblivion."***

I had a bit of trouble getting into this story at first and I did find the writing too wordy at times. Also there were one or two over the top moments and the couple's fall into love portion of the story needed a tad more but the overall message was one that should be heard.

As for the question of whether or not there's an hea? The answer is(view spoiler). This author is truly talented and can reduce a reader to tears (even the toughest of readers like myself).

\*Read the Author's Note because it was simply beautiful and it shouldn't be missed.\*

***"The disabled aren't sainted caricatures, they're real people – they're Summer. They're you. They're me."***

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## Alissa says

Ten million stars for one of the greatest books I have ever read. I finished this book days ago and haven't stopped thinking about it. I wish I were a better writer so I can say something incredible about this book, but really - I don't have the words to do this review justice. The Summer Remains has earned a spot at the top of my favorites list along with Making Faces. There is so much beauty, wit, heartbreak, compassion, loss, humor, resilience and just plain old brilliance within the pages of this book. Summer & Cooper have found a permanent place inside my heart. And soul. Every page of this book is filled with so much emotion. It will leave you heartbroken but uplifted. It will change your perspective on life, and make you want to be a better person.

I do have to add that I applaud Seth King for bringing people with disabilities to the forefront, and acknowledging them for the people they are underneath whatever their appearance may be. Just another reason to adore this book.

Summer Johnson says it best:

"when you finish a good book and hug it to your chest to somehow soak the words into your soul through osmosis."

Yes, she described this book to a tee for me. It is a must read!!!

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## Beverly says

The feels, this book, I am not sure I can handle much more heartache this week! Summer Remains is such a beautiful story with an important message. Yes, it's a love story and I love Summer and Cooper. But what really broke me in this story was how we judge other people. Summer Remains reminds you that we are all the same, we are all looking for more, acceptance and love. Ugh, this story so epically beautiful!

Side note: You will cry like a little bitch and get so mad at the situations you can't control!

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## Tough Critic Book Reviews says

### SO MANY HANDS!!!

Have you ever wanted so badly to love a book that it's almost physically painful when you find imperfections? When you know, you *know* that it deserves to be loved, but you still see its faults. You agonize over the parts that you thought were amazing compared with the parts you tried to overlook, but couldn't.

On one hand, I had raw emotion. The final 20% wrecked me. The final 20% is what connected me with Cooper. I felt. I cried. I ached; that deep ache right at the base of your throat. I felt everything. However, on the other hand, I had the parts of the book I tried to overlook, the parts that distracted me from everything this book could be.

I feel like these two hands were constantly smacking me in the face...repeatedly.

There is a part in *The Summer Remains* where Cooper decides to let Summer read his book, a rough draft, something he's never shown to anyone else. Her thoughts about Cooper's book perfectly parallel my own.

**“The book wasn’t totally perfect, and there were some typos and clunky paragraphs he could have smoothed out, but the bones of greatness were absolutely there.”**

I'm pretty sure Seth King didn't intend for me to use his quoted words to express my very own thoughts about *his* book, but ironically I couldn't have said it better myself.

I had a very hard time connecting with the main character. I'm not sure if it was the immaturity of her voice, the constant “likes” or “whatevers”; I just didn't feel like I was reading the POV of a twenty-four year old woman...girl? Girl woman? Her dialogue was very repetitive and certain phrases were used repeatedly. I felt like I was reading a rough draft and it ultimately distracted me from developing the feelings and emotion I think I was suppose to. It was a definite struggle in the beginning.

Then enters Cooper.

Copper highlighted the amazing writing that Seth King is capable of. If it wasn't for his character, I may not have made it through to the emotional hailstorm of part two. His dialogue possessed such an infectious quality. It was clever, witty, and added such a tangible eminence to the plot; I couldn't help but want more. I think if the beginning would have had more dialogue and character interaction, and less monologue, I would have made the connection I was craving, and experienced the emotion that didn't explode until the very end. Unfortunately the first 80% of the book just wasn't for me.

Once we get to Cooper's POV, everything changes. The author tapped into something genuine and so heart catching that it physically hurt to read. *That* is the type of writing that deserves to be praised. I just wish I didn't have to wait until the end to get it. I bled so much emotion in that last 20% that I was overwhelmed. Those are “the bones of greatness”.

The rest of the story just needed some editing, structure and a little more cohesion; things I feel will develop with more experience. However, based on some of the beautiful quotes I read throughout the book and the emotional response torn out of me in the end, Seth King has the type of creativity and talent that can't be taught. With that much potential, I can't wait to see what comes next.

READ ON!

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**Abbie D. says**

This is not the story of boy meets girl, they fall in love, then live happily ever after.

This is not the fairy tale of Snow White, where just one kiss from her prince will bring her back..

This is a story I cannot just summarize in one sentence, and it's definitely not a story you've ever read before...

First off, the writing is unlike anything I've ever laid eyes upon; it's captivating.

From the very first line, this book had my full attention as I was already invested. As I read on, I experienced a unique combination of feelings, all at once.

A love story set in this new age, where cell phones are always in one hand, and constantly checking Facebook is the new normalcy for this Millennial Generation we exist in, Seth King captures all of these elements and molds them into a story so unique, that I'm having a hard time even thinking about moving onto another book.

Reading Summer and Cooper's story was not just a breath of fresh air, it was like breathing in a different kind of oxygen. I really felt their special moments together, their pain, their love.

Can I pick a favorite part of this book? Absolutely not. There are SO many moments that melted me and made me feel I was truly one with story. Do you know those books where you want to just highlight a sentence on every other page? Well, try EVERY page with this book.

This tale will make you laugh, it will make you cry, and it will stay with you forever, not just until summer.

Seth's writing is beyond superb, and he is here to stay. Keep your eyes peeled for more masterpieces.

\*Provided an ARC for an honest review\*

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◆\*Arianna◆\* says

4.5 Stars!!

*"You don't love someone for their looks, or their clothes, or for their car, but because they sing a song only you can hear." ~ Oscar Wilde*

"The Summer Remains" was one beautiful, heartbreaking, inspiring and emotional story. It's a book about life, love, sacrifice, friendship, death and so much more. It's a book that will touch your heart and soul. It's a book that will make you think and appreciate what you still have – life, family, friends, love – and that will show you that love and life are beautiful and that you should carpe diem as much as you can. This book is real and honest, powerful and haunting, captivating and unique in its own way. Needless to say this book will make you feel.

Summer is 24 and all she wants like every one of us is to feel cherished and loved. But you see, she's not like many of us. She was born with this 'defect' called Esophageal Intresia, which basically means her throat was broken. She has a stomach tube and facial scars and even if she knows how judgmental people are, she wants

to have by her side that person that would do anything for her, that will love her exactly like she is, for who she is.

***"I, Summer Johnson, Purveyor of Pragmatism, Lover of Logic, Ultimate Believer in the Rational, and Person Who Was Maybe Going to Die Soon, wanted to drown in someone."***

Through a dating application she meets Cooper, who will not only change her summer, but will change her life as well. While Summer is 'broken' on the outside, Cooper is 'broken' on the inside. He has his own past and fears and flaws and he's struggling every day to accept that life is how it is, unfair. He can't move forward and he's convinced life had beaten his dreams out of him.

What starts as a beautiful friendship becomes more. Summer and Cooper find in each other what they had looking for all their lives. They give each other what all of us are seeking – understanding, support, friendship and most of all LOVE. While Summer is not honest with Cooper about her condition, Copper is amazing standing by her, loving her and hoping...

***"You are so beautiful," he continued, his voice catching in his throat. "You are so special and important and elegant and smart and kind and worthwhile, and you are so much better than me and everyone else I've ever known in every single way, and you are the only truth I have ever found in this lying world, and I love you to the floor of me, and it breaks me to imagine a future without you in it, and I just want you to know all that, just because."***

This was such a touching beautifully written book. It was sad and tragic and real and it broke my heart. Summer was such an endearing character. She knows she's 'different', but she doesn't want this label for herself. She's doesn't want any sympathy or pity because she doesn't want to feel broken. And in my eyes she was nothing like that. She's a survivor, she's a fighter, she's one of the strongest heroine I've read about. One of the things I loved about her is how big her heart is. She is so kind. Despite her condition she helps other handle their new reality, help others who at some point felt or still feels like her, misunderstood, alone, unlovable. Her struggling to accept that people are not always so accepting, that they can be judgemental and that life can be unfair was well done, heartbreaking and felt real. Summer is a very easy to like heroine. She's caring and sweet, compassionate and thoughtful, empathetic and funny and I loved her personality.

***"You're beautiful, and beautiful things don't demand attention. It just gravitates to them."***

Cooper was an amazing guy from the beginning to finish. He's so caring and sweet and I loved everything

else about him, but most of all I loved him because he loved Summer with all his heart. I loved him because he's different and sees Summer like she truly is – a wonderful girl who has a big heart and who wants to love and be loved and also because he sees what matters, her inner beauty.

Summer and Cooper's love story is pure and simple beautiful, tender and so, so touching. It warmed my heart and I was happy for Summer, for both of them actually, but it also like I mentioned before it broke my heart. Their story it will make you smile, laugh, cry and feel. You will feel angry at times, but you will continue reading this wonderful story because is simply that, wonderful.

I loved how they gave each other everything they've got, how they change each other, how they became a better human being. I've never doubt they were truly made for each other and I've never doubt they are soulmates.

Overall, a wonderful read!

*"We were soul mates, this boy on the cusp of forever, this girl on the end of oblivion."*

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### **Suzana says**

*"You gave me a roaring July in the winter of my life, and I'm thankful."*

*"Transparent blue was my favorite color, because it was the color of the sky just before the sun rose and immediately after it set. It reminded me that whatever you were dealing with in the present, you had survived your past and had no choice but to face your future, so you'd might as well square your shoulders, chill the fuck up, and deal with what life has put in front of you."*

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### **Leslie says**

Wow!! Just fucking wow!! I can't deal with books like these!! I've NEVER I repeat NEVER experienced a book where the author has word for word explained exactly the emotions I was feeling while I read the book. In light of that I'm going to use the author's own words to review his own book because honestly I don't think I could do it justice and he basically ripped the words right out of my head!

*"In only sixty pages I had become completely attached to the old man, feeling every ounce of his heartbreak and every inch of his joy. And as I turned the last page, I just looked outside and felt empty and full and exhausted and pumped up all at the same time, but mostly I just felt hopelessly heartbroken."*

*In the mid-morning light I saw a mom walking with her little son and their dog, and I wanted to lean out of the window and shout, What's wrong with you freaks?! Why isn't your world stopping? Why aren't you heartbroken? Why aren't you lying on the floor, broken and sobbing, because a totally fictional character in a totally made-up story is dead? I was furious that the world wasn't broken by a story it had never read, and I wanted to gouge out my eyeballs so I could read it all over again with brand new eyes –that was the mark of a good fucking book."*

*"like when you finish a good book and hug it to your chest to somehow soak the words into your soul through osmosis"*

*"Seriously, all the books were the same, and I was so ready for something new"*

*"And the summer of my dreams barreled on. "*

*"So if destruction is what this is, if that's what we're headed toward, then I'm happy, because I really wouldn't mind destruction at your hands, Summer Johnson"*

*"But if anything does happen," Cooper finally whispered into the July breeze from beside me, his voice a quiet prayer, "remember this: I'm gonna be your boyfriend forever, Summer Martin Johnson."*

*"Maybe this was all I'd ever get with him, this summer of beautiful risk, these last three months when he had loved me so perfectly by the sea"*

*"and you are the only truth I have ever found in this lying world, and I love you to the floor of me"*

*"But for every epic love tale splashed out in lights for the world to see, there were ten million more couples that loved each other in the dark just as beautifully."*

*"You gave me a roaring July in the winter of my life, and I'm thankful."*

*"thank you for loving me on my way down"*

*"Yes. It's amazing. Trust me, I read hundreds of books a year. It's like you painted a portrait with words instead of paint"*

*"Mr king is a writer to the floor of him"*

I won't even bother with adding words of my own. Read the damn the book :)

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**Sarah Pianettini says**

I've been sitting here for ten minutes and I don't know how to express how this book affected me. Sometimes when things really get to me emotionally I have trouble putting my feelings into words so please bare with me.

I'll start off by saying I've never once doubted Seth's talent. From the second I started reading The Goode Fight I knew he was an amazing author. I also knew from the very first teaser that The Summer Remains would be off the charts amazing. What I did not expect was for Seth to come into my life, drop off Summer and Cooper and completely wreck me for any other books. Wreck. Me. I have the worst book hangover I've ever had. Not since reading The Lovely Bones, years ago, have I felt like this.

I usually hate female leads. I can never relate to them and they generally annoy the crap out of me. I fell in love with Summer on page one. So much so that when I would take a break from reading, I missed her. Missed. Her. That's huge for me. I can usually read a good book quick and move on. I found myself taking random breaks just so this book wouldn't be over. But when I would all I could think about was getting back to Summer and Cooper. I just wanted to jump into the book and have it never ever end. It's a weird feeling to not want to stop reading but not wanting the book to be over.

The love story between Summer and Cooper is beautiful and tragic and wonderful. I can't put into words how it affected me. I really can't, I'm sorry.

I cried, boy did I cry, but I also laughed and smiled a lot. I don't know what else to say that won't ruin this book for anyone. You really need to read and experience every second of this book for yourselves. It's a breathtakingly beautiful story that has truly dug it's way into my heart and will stay there forever.

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