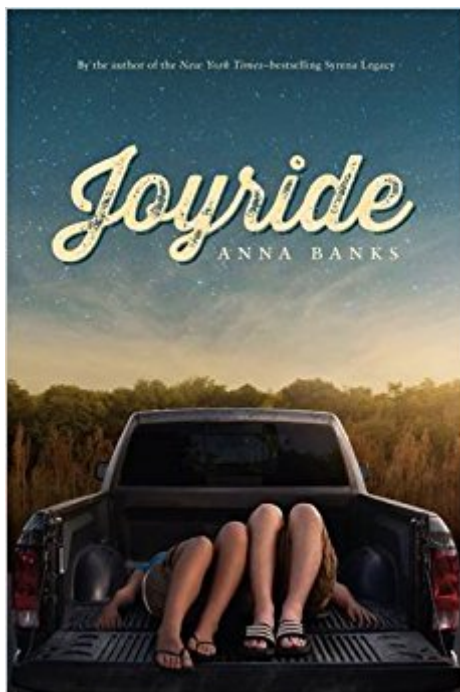


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# Joyride



## Synopsis

Who says opposites don't attract? It's been several years since Carly Vega's parents were deported. Carly lives with her older brother, studies hard, and works the graveyard shift at a convenience store to earn enough to bring her parents back from Mexico. Arden Moss used to be the star quarterback at school. He used to date popular blondes and have fun pranking with his older sister. But now all that's changed, and Arden needs a new accomplice. Especially one his father, the town sheriff, will disapprove. All Carly wants, at first, is to stay under the radar and do what her family expects. All Arden wants is to not do what his family expects. When their paths cross, they each realize they've been living according to the wishes of others. Carly and Arden's journey toward their true hearts is funny, romantic, and sometimes harsh. Just like real life. Joyride by Anna Banks is a fun, romantic story about challenging yourself and what you always thought you wanted.

## Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; Reprint edition (June 7, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1250079985

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #281,882 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Teens >

Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Emigration & Immigration #1608 in Books >

Teens > Romance > Contemporary #51574 in Books > Children's Books

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up • Good girl Carly and popular Arden combine forces in order to live more authentic lives in this angsty contemporary novel. Carly's parents have been deported to Mexico and she works nights to support her family. Arden uses his bad-boy reputation to pull off grand, sometimes disastrous pranks to salve the pain of his sister's death. Carly is not Arden's type, at first, and Carly knows she is too busy to bother with him. Eager to escape the iron fist of his

sheriff father, Arden grows closer to Carly after an unexpected encounter. Together they realize Arden's father's true intentions and work in concert to bring him to justice. With a dash of romance, Banks's book tackles the issues of human smuggling, immigration, and a rogue police officer. It could be too much for any young adult novel, but buoyed by irresistible characters, sincere dialogue, and robust prose, this is one ride readers will all want to take. Fans of Sarah Dessen and Deb Caletti will flock to the author's fan pool. VERDICT Relevant, risky, and romantic, this work is a clear standout in today's contemporary YA niche. —Amanda C. Buschmann, Atascocita Middle School, Humble, TX --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

“...[has] a great deal of charm.” —Publishers Weekly on the Syrena Legacy  
“...intriguing” —School Library Journal on the Syrena Legacy  
“A refreshing story filled with vibrant characters, feisty humor, and an irresistible romance. This story of star-crossed lovers in a luscious coastal setting brings new life to the age-old myth of merfolk and left me swooning for more!” —Marissa Meyer, New York Times bestselling author of Cinder, on the Syrena Legacy

Carly Vega has no life. Ever since her illegal immigrant parents got deported following an auto accident, she's done nothing but go to school and work the night shift at a rundown convenience store. And try to fly under the radar. She gives her older brother Julio almost everything she earns so he can save enough to buy passage back into the country for their parents and two siblings they've never seen. When Cletus, an older man who is generally inebriated, comes into the store like he does most nights, things in her life take a big turn. Carly realizes that a masked man has accosted Cletus just before he gets into his truck and is holding a gun. Carly doesn't stop to think, she grabs the shotgun under the counter, slips over the top and rushes out to confront the robber, even though she's terrified and doesn't have a clue how to fire the weapon. After an odd standoff, the would-be robber backs off, but not before stealing her bike to make his getaway. Thus begins one of the more unusual and prickly romances you'll encounter in a YA novel. The masked man is Arden Moss, former football star and son of the racist sheriff who deported Carly's parents. He'd been trying to scare his grandfather into stopping his driving while drunk. Even though he's had classes with Carly, he, like nearly everyone else at school, hasn't paid any attention to her. Now he can't stop thinking about her, so he connives until he gets her to be his pranking accomplice, something he's missed since his older sister who had schizophrenia, killed herself. Watching these two strong-willed teens edge closer, fall in love and deal with several serious situations makes for a

really engrossing read and one that I liked a lot. This is a great book to add to any school or public library.

Great book! :)

I can't even explain how disappointed I am in this book. It had such hopes on being a great story but the characters were the worst. First of all, Carly's family. What are wrong with these people? They put so much pressure on this poor girl. They actually tell her school isn't important, making more money for your family is and the money she's making isn't good enough for them. It isn't good enough for them. It isn't until she gets a second job that they finally feel that she's doing enough. Then when it comes out that she's been doing normal 16 yr old stuff her brother is horrible to her. He also tries to guilt her for buying something for herself out of her pay. Arden is an idiot. The fact that he couldn't understand why someone wouldn't blow off their responsibilities to hang out with him, after he pulled a gun on her, is just plain crazy. Then he finally realizes she's poor. He thought she wore off brand clothes and insisted on working night shift at a gas station for the heck of it. It finally dawns on him because she wears the same shoes everyday. Really idiot? That's what gave it away? Arden's jerk of a father is I believe the devil incarnated. I've read about some bad people before but he's pretty close to the top of the list. The only person I even liked was Cletus the elderly drunk. He was the only one that expected Carly to be what she was and accept her for it. This could've been a hit with the story line but it fell so far below. The only good thing about this book is I know who to give it to. While waiting on it to get here my daughter happened to mention hearing about it and planning to see if the library had it. I told her I was waiting for it to be delivered and she snatched it up as soon as it came. She absolutely loved the story so now she will own it.

Bought this to read with my niece. I read it, she didn't. Good story but I was hoping she would actually pick the book up!

\*Originally posted on readitinaday.com\* Maybe I should start this review the same way I keep starting all my other reviews: I was afraid of reading this book. My friend, Melanie loved it and gushed about it, but I was still afraid I wouldn't like it. This year has been a great

year for favorites. I have read so many good books, the majority having been released this year, I'm almost always worried that the next book I read is going to suck. I'm sure eventually I'm going to come across one that sucks, but Joyride wasn't it. Carly works hard, studies hard, and definitely has no time for fun. She has more important things to do. It's just her and her brother, Julio, trying to make ends meet and trying to help out her parents. She wants to get good grades, to get into a good school, so that she can make a life for herself and her family. She cannot afford to be distracted. Obviously, things aren't going to work out for her like that. Not when she meets Arden and he shows her all that she's missing. Trying to balance her grades, her job, her family, and now a social life, Carly is in for a ride that she wasn't expecting, but that might ultimately free her. Kay, so Carly was a spectacular main character. Fierce and tiny, she makes me proud of being Latina, too. She dealt with things like any girl her age would have. Not once did she do something that made me stop and think it was out of character. She was well rounded and fully developed character. Racism is a heavy theme in this book, especially when you have a Mexican main character and lots of discussion about immigration. Carly was hit with a lot of stereotypes and insults, and she deals with it wonderfully. Arden has to deal with his fair share of crap too, and he was the most obviously flawed of the two. His life was unbalanced and he had excuses for it. Excuses can be the truth or they can be a lie? Arden needs to realize this. This book had me wondering if there would be a happy end. The last 30 pages were intense. The ending, however, was completely satisfying. And I won't tell you if it was happy or not. You'll just have to read it for yourself. \*Thanks to NetGalley and Macmillan Children's Publishing Group for an eARC for this honest review\*\*\* Props for the cover having Arden wear those hideous sandals because they're in FL.

ACCURATE\*\*

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