

BOOK RESUME: *Almost Perfect* By *Brian Katcher*  
Publisher, Year

### Reviews

- [Kirkus](#) (September 2009. Starred): “Domestic drama and personal tragedy ensue, and while the ending is not necessarily a happy one, both characters come full circle and begin to better understand both themselves and each other. The author tackles issues of homophobia, hate crimes and stereotyping with humor and grace in an accessible tone that will resonate with teens who may not have encountered the issue of transgender identity before.”
- [School Library Journal](#) (December 2009): “This remarkable book takes a hard look at the difficulties and pain experienced by young male-to-female transsexuals from an easily relatable perspective. Logan is a conservative 18-year-old Everyman whose generic voice isn’t-and doesn’t need to be-anything special; although readers follow his growth, it is Sage’s story that is truly important. A remarkably “clean” book dealing with sexuality and identity, this is neither preachy nor didactic while directly challenging prejudice and intolerance.” (Review posted on Author’s Website- no longer available online)
- [Booklist](#) (December 2009): Many teens both those familiar with transgender issues and those who are not will welcome the honest take on a rarely explored subject. The biological facts about hormones and Sage’s changing body are woven in, and Katcher clearly dramatizes the characters’ secrets, lies, shame, and denial, as well as the cruel prejudice they experience with family and friends.” (Review posted on Author’s Website- only available to members online)
- [The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books](#) (January 2010): “Katcher manages a delicate balance here: Sage is utterly credible and utterly sympathetic, but so are Logan’s shock and reservations. His narration explores the emotional issues—does this mean he’s gay? Can he face his small Missouri town if people know?—while the story conveys the daunting details of Sage’s everyday realities, such as going to great lengths to avoid showing her driver’s license, which classifies her as male. Though the book is programmatic at times and gives Logan too much responsibility for Sage’s well-being and identity, this is a solid, reality-based exploration of transgender issues and the possibly insurmountable task of facing them as a teenager in a small town.” (Review posted on Author’s Website- no longer available online)

### Awards

- [Stonewall Award for Children’s & Young Adult Literature](#) Winner, 2011
- [Lambda Award](#) Nominee, 2010
- [Georgia Peach Award](#) Nominee, 2011-2012
- [Garden State Teen Book Award](#) Nominee (New Jersey), 2011-2012
- [Green Mountain Book Award](#) Nominee (Vermont), 2012-2013
- [Flume Readers’ Choice Award](#) Nominee (New Hampshire), 2013

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**Lists**

- [American Library Association Best Books for Young Adults](#), 2010
- [Capitol Choice Noteworthy Book](#) (Washington, D.C.), 2010
- [TAYSHASH \(Texas\) Reading List Book](#), 2011
- [YALSA Outstanding Book for the College Bound](#), 2014

**Response to challenges**

- [Lee County Schools, Florida](#): The book could be banned in classrooms and libraries by administrators pending a review. Despite various searches I cannot tell if the book was permanently removed from the shelves after review or not.
- [Polk County Schools, Florida](#): The book could be banned in classrooms and libraries by administrators pending a review. Book appears to still be available in at least 2 school libraries but marked as “lost” in other catalogs.
- [Walton County Schools District, Florida](#): Book was banned by the administration pending an investigation. Despite various searches cannot tell if the book was permanently removed from the library.
- [Iredell-Statesville School District, North Carolina](#): Book was banned in libraries by the administration. Book is available at this time.
- [Granbury ISD, Texas](#): Book was banned by the administration pending an investigation. Title is no longer available to students.
- [North East ISD, Texas](#): Book was banned by the administration pending an investigation. Book has been [returned to the shelves](#).

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**Reference list**

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