

Delirium Stories: Hana, Annabel, and Raven (Delirium Trilogy)

By Lauren Oliver

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For the first time, Lauren Oliver's short stories about characters in the Delirium world appear in print. Originally published as digital novellas, *Hana*, *Annabel*, and *Raven* each center around a fascinating and complex character who adds important information to the series and gives it greater depth. This collection also includes an excerpt from *Requiem*, the final novel in Oliver's *New York Times* bestselling series.

Hana is told through the perspective of Lena's best friend, Hana Tate. Set during the tumultuous summer before Lena and Hana are supposed to be cured, this story is a poignant and revealing look at a moment when the girls' paths diverge and their futures are altered forever.

Lena's mother, Annabel, has always been a mystery—a ghost from Lena's past—until now. Her journey from teenage runaway to prisoner of the state is a taut, gripping narrative that expands the Delirium world and illuminates events—and Lena—through a new point of view.

And as the passionate, fierce leader of a rebel group in the Wilds, Raven plays an integral role in the resistance effort and comes into Lena's life at a crucial time. Crackling with intensity, *Raven* is a brilliant story told in the voice of one of the strongest and most tenacious characters in the Delirium world.

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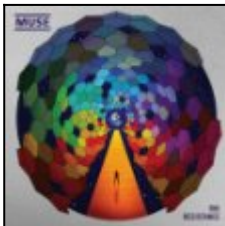
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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Amazon Best Books of the Month, February 2011: Lena Haloway is content in her safe, government-managed society. She feels (mostly) relaxed about the future in which her husband and career will be decided, and looks forward to turning 18, when she'll be cured of deliria, a.k.a. love. She tries not to think about her mother's suicide (her last words to Lena were a forbidden "I love you") or the supposed "Invalid" community made up of the uncured just beyond her Portland, Maine, border. There's no real point—she believes her government knows how to best protect its people, and should do so at any cost. But 95 days before her cure, Lena meets Alex, a confident and mysterious young man who makes her heart flutter and her skin turn red-hot. As their romance blossoms, Lena begins to doubt the intentions of those in power, and fears that her world will turn gray should she submit to the procedure. In this powerful and beautifully written novel, Lauren Oliver, the bestselling author of *Before I Fall*, throws readers into a tightly controlled society where options don't exist, and shows not only the lengths one will go for a chance at freedom, but also the true meaning of sacrifice. --*Jessica Schein*

Lauren Oliver's *Delirium* Playlist



In *Delirium*, the government requires that all teenagers be cured of love, a.k.a. deliria, to keep society safe. But 95 days before her treatment, Lena Haloway falls for a boy--and must face the truth about her own feelings and the world in which she lives.

In this exclusive playlist, Lauren Oliver shares the songs that capture this haunting novel about the power of love and what one will risk in order to keep it.

Gayle Forman and Lauren Oliver: Author One-on-One

Gayle Forman is a self-described "perpetual teenager" and an award-winning author and journalist whose articles have appeared in numerous publications. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband and children. She is the author of *Where She Went* and *If I Stay*. Recently she sat down with Lauren Oliver to discuss their work. Read the resulting interview below, or turn the tables to see what happened when Lauren interviewed Gayle.

From Gayle Forman: Lauren Oliver is kind of mind-blowing. She wrote her intensely moving debut, *Before I Fall* when she was 26, which seems impossible given the book's depth and wisdom. She followed up with the deliciously provocative love story *Delirium*, the first of a trilogy, and her first middle-grade book, *Liesl & Po* comes out in the fall of 2011. On top of that, she's constantly cooking up book ideas for her literary development company. Somehow, she managed to slow down long enough for us to talk shop over lunch in our mutual hometown, Brooklyn.

Gayle: You have like 100 balls in the air. Are you one of those people who thrives on an insane amount of activity?



Lauren: I've been busy and overextended my whole life. I wrote half of *Before I Fall* while I had a full-time job, was a full-time grad student, and worked part-time in a nightclub. I wrote the first half of the book on my phone on the subway. I'd email the chapters to myself.

Gayle: You wrote the book on your phone?

Lauren: It's very rare that I write on my computer. A lot of times I'm writing on subways or in the back of cabs or on airplanes. I know the exact quantity of lines on my BlackBerry and how it relates to word count.

Gayle: Well, that brings me right to my question about process. How does an idea become a book for you? How did *Delirium* arrive?

Lauren: I'd read an essay by Gabriel Garcia Marquez that said that all great books are either about death or love and I'd already written about death. And I started thinking that I'd never written a love story. It was out of my comfort zone. The next day I was at the gym, and the TV was on and the news report was all about the swine flu epidemic. It was the latest in the flu scares. And I thought it was so weird how easily people become panicked. You can convince people that anything is an epidemic. So much is propaganda. And the two ideas just combined in my head. And the character of Lena started narrating immediately.

Gayle: Moral of the story, budding writers: Go to the gym.



Lauren: Most of my breakthrough ideas come at the gym or while showering.

Gayle: Me too! And I'll run out and start writing and be dripping in a towel.

Lauren: I've actually ruined computers that way. I think what happens is punctuated equilibrium: a period when changes are accumulating but not visibly, the simmering is happening. Then, when your mind is very relaxed, what was unconscious becomes conscious.

Gayle: On the surface, there's a very big leap between your first two books. *Before I Fall* follows Sam, a prototypical mean girl who has to relive the last day of her life while *Delirium* follows Lena who lives in a creepy world in which love has been outlawed. But really, both of these girls start out conformists and challenge the constraints on their lives.

Lauren: Transformation is very important to me. I definitely am very interested in how people become who they are. In change. In characters who are damaged who and who feel initially unlovable—and in their redemption through feelings of love.

Gayle: Who are you more like, Lena or Sam?

Lauren: Sam is more similar to how I was in high school. I was rebellious. I went out and partied and did all the bad things that she did. Lena is just... she's so obedient and so scared of doing anything wrong. I was so fond of her. I kind of loved her in this way, I felt so protective of her. She's so fragile and also brave.

Gayle: That was exactly how I felt about Mia in *If I Stay*. I loved the strength of both Sam and Lena, in relation to their love interests. Even in *Delirium*, where Alex is the one who sparks Lena's rebellion, she's no damsel in distress.

Lauren: I don't believe in damsels. That's not a model of femininity or heroism I subscribe to. Everyone has to learn to save themselves. It can be through the mechanisms of loving other people but you have to learn to save yourself.

Gayle: Dystopian fiction is very hot right now. Did you have any idea you'd be on the cutting edge of this trend?

Lauren: I never heard that word when I wrote *Delirium*. I mean, I knew what it meant but not as a category. *Delirium* is supposed to be a meditation on love, what it does, good and bad. Because there have been times when if I could have reached inside to take out my own heart out, I would've. Books can't come from categories; they come from a desire to say something about the world.

From [Booklist](#)

Oliver appropriately dedicates this slender collection to the many fans of the Delirium series—the ones who will fully appreciate the connective tissue offered up by these three tales from the perspectives of supporting characters. “Hana” runs alongside the time line of Delirium (2011) and shows that Lena’s best friend was more like her than readers suspected. The middle story, “Annabel,” is the strongest, and details Lena’s mother’s 11 years in “the Crypts,” where she is constructing an escape rope with the help of a sympathetic security guard. “Raven” follows the fiery revolutionary as she spends 8 years in the Wilds, heading toward a daring rescue of Lena while falling in love with the inscrutable Tank. All three stories intercut between past and present, allowing plenty of opportunity for Oliver to employ her patented yearning prose. The downside to this is that the three voices sound rather similar. The upside, however, is that character development, not romance, takes center stage, making this a worthy, quick read for series devotees. Grades 9-12. --Daniel Kraus

Review

Praise for REQUIEM:“Is there a theme more perfect for YA readers than choosing what you want from life rather than being told?” (Booklist)

Praise for PANDEMONIUM:“From the grief-stricken shell of her former self to a nascent refugee and finally to a full-fledged resistance fighter, Lena’s strength and the complexity of her internal struggles will keep readers up at night.” (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

Praise for PANDEMONIUM:“This is a romance in the purest of senses, where just the longing for the faintest taste of love is worth the greatest of risks. Like all successful second volumes, this expands the world and ups the stakes, setting us up for the big finale.” (Booklist)

Praise for PANDEMONIUM:“Following directly on the heels of Delirium, Pandemonium is equally riveting. The underlying theme that love will win out regardless of prohibition is a powerful idea that will speak to teens.” (School Library Journal)

Praise for Delirium:“In [Oliver’s] dystopian America, love has been outlawed as the life-threatening source of all discord. Lena’s gradual awakening is set against a convincing backdrop of totalitarian horror. The abrupt ending leaves enough unanswered questions to set breathless readers up for volume two of this trilogy.” (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

Praise for Delirium:“Strong characters, a vivid portrait of the lives of teens in a repressive society, and nagging questions that can be applied to our world today make this book especially compelling and discussable.” (School Library Journal (starred review))

Praise for Delirium:“In a thick climate of fear, Oliver spins out a suspenseful story of awakening and resistance with true love at its core.” (The Horn Book)

Praise for Before I Fall:“Oliver’s debut novel is raw, emotional, and, at times, beautiful....readers will love Samantha best as she hurtles toward an end as brave as it is heartbreaking.” (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

Praise for Before I Fall:“Samantha’s attempts to save her life and right the wrongs she has caused are precisely what will draw readers into this complex story and keep them turning pages until Sam succeeds in living her last day the right way.” (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA) (Starred Review))

Praise for *Before I Fall*: "Oliver, in a pitch-perfect teen voice, explores the power we have to affect the people around us in this intensely believable first novel... This is a compelling book with a powerful message and should not be missed." (ALA Booklist)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harold Sparkman:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era just where everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources in it can be true or not need people to be aware of each facts they get. How people have to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Examining a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information mainly this *Delirium Stories: Hana, Annabel, and Raven (Delirium Trilogy)* book as this book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred per-cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

Norris Patterson:

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