

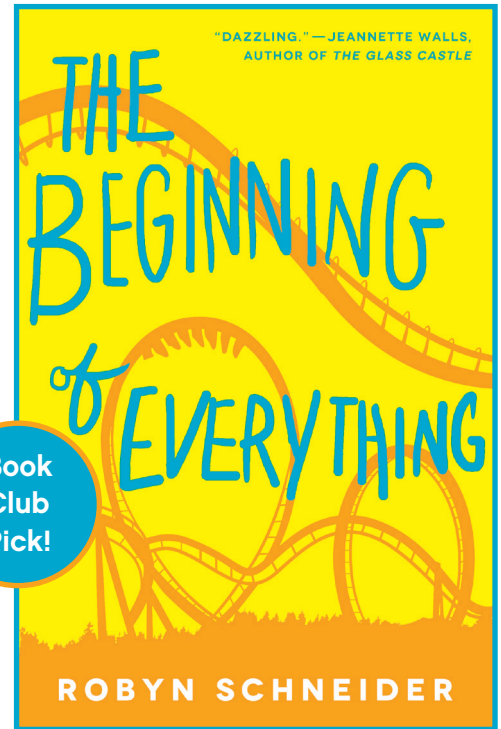


# THE BEGINNING & EVERYTHING

BY ROBYN SCHNEIDER

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Ezra Faulkner was supposed to be homecoming king, but that was before—before his girlfriend cheated on him, before a car accident shattered his leg, and before he fell in love with new girl Cassidy Thorpe. Robyn Schneider's *The Beginning of Everything* is a lyrical, witty, hilarious, and heart-wrenching novel about how difficult it is to play the part that people expect, and how new beginnings can stem from abrupt and tragic endings.



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does the title *The Beginning of Everything* relate to the themes of the book?
2. Do you agree with Ezra's theory that everyone has a tragedy waiting for them?
3. Why do Ezra and his friends drift apart? Have you ever experienced a similar situation with your friends?
4. If you were Ezra, would you have handled the aftermath of the accident any differently? How so?
5. How is your high school similar to Eastwood? How is it different?
6. Why do you think Ezra finds himself drawn to Cassidy? Do you think that Cassidy is Ezra's everything or just the beginning?
7. How does the friendship between Toby and Ezra change throughout the story?
8. What do you think of Ezra's two different circles of friends? Which group is better for Ezra? How so?
9. Do you think that Cassidy's parents put too much pressure on their children? Why or why not?
10. Did you suspect Cassidy's secret at any point in the story? How does her secret change her relationship with Ezra?
11. Do you agree with Cassidy's decisions at the end of the novel? Why or why not?