



SUBMITTED OCTOBER 31, 2023

Request for School Board Reconsideration of Library Media Materials

Author: **Katie Green**

Title: **Lighter Than my Shadow**

Publisher (if known):

Request initiated by: **(October 31, 2023)**

Telephone: Address:

City:

Zip:

1. To what in the book/material do you object: (Please be specific; cite pages, frames of films, dialogues, etc.)?

2) The illustration on this page depicts an emaciated young woman standing on a scale clothed. There is a black area above her head containing images of the young woman, nude with her breasts and nipples exposed, in various positions while tumbling through the black area.

3) The illustration on this page depicts the same young woman described above lying in a bed with a tube in her nose. A black area above her head contains images of the young woman, nude with her breasts and nipples exposed, in various positions.

60) The illustration on the top of the page depicts two young girls standing in a doorway. One of the girls is shouting, "MEG'S GOT A BOYFRIEND AND SHE'S GONNA HAVE SEX WITH HIM!!!"

68) "I wish I could be anorexic..."

101) The illustrations on this page depict a nude young woman lying on her back surrounded by a black area. Her breasts and nipples are exposed. The illustration on the bottom of the page depicts the young woman with a butcher knife in her left hand slicing a large piece of her right thigh off.

107) The illustration on this page depicts a young woman bent over a toilet with her left hand in her mouth. The image above her depicts a nude version of her with her left hand inside her throat. Her left breast, nipple, and pubic hair are exposed.

308) The illustration on the top of the page depicts a man's hand grabbing a woman's exposed breast. His thumb is pressing into the exposed nipple. The woman's arm is shown outstretched pressing on the man's forearm. The second illustration depicts the man holding the woman's upper body down near her left breast. He is unbuttoning her pants. She is pushing on his arm. The third illustration depicts the man putting his hand into the young woman's pants. He is hovering over her smiling. She is pushing on his arm. The bottom illustration depicts a zoomed in view of the man's hand in the woman's jeans. Her arms are raised upward toward his upper arms. The text on the page reads: stop it, stop it, stop it, stop it, stop it, STOP IT, STOP IT, STOP IT

358) I wish I was dead.

365) The illustrations on this page depict a young woman emptying pills from a medicine cabinet. The pile of pills are being held in her hands.

2. Where did you first learn of this item?

On the Florida State list of books removed from Florida County School Districts.

3. Have you read the book in its entirety? *NO – Florida Statutes explains why these should be removed.*

Per Florida Statute:

847.0123 (b)

Any book, pamphlet, magazine, printed matter however reproduced, or sound recording that contains any matter defined in s. 847.001, explicit and detailed verbal descriptions or narrative accounts of sexual excitement, or sexual conduct and that is harmful to minors.

847.001 (6)

“Harmful to minors” means any reproduction, imitation, characterization, description, exhibition, presentation, or representation, of whatever kind or form, depicting nudity, sexual conduct, or sexual excitement when it:

(a) Predominantly appeals to a prurient, shameful, or morbid interest;

(b) Is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community as a whole with respect to what is suitable material or conduct for minors; and

(c) Taken as a whole, is without serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors.

1006.34

4. Any instructional material containing pornography or otherwise prohibited by s.

847.012 may not be used or made available within any public school.

In HB 1069 line item 313 it states:

Parents shall have the right to read passages from any material that is subject to an objection. If the school board denies a parent the right to read passages due to content that meets the requirements the school district shall discontinue the use of the material.

The informational passages posted here from inside the book address these three points that they are NOT:

- *Free of Pornography and material prohibited under s. 847.012, F.S.*
- *Suited to student needs and their ability to comprehend the material presented.*
- *Appropriate for the grade level and age group for which the materials are used and made available.*

4. Is there any additional information you would like us to consider in our evaluation?

According to: <https://floridareprofreedom.org/compsexed/>

"Currently, however, comprehensive sex education is far from the norm in Florida public schools as the State does not require it. Generally, abstinence-only material is used in Florida classrooms, with the core focus being on not having sex outside heterosexual marriage and no inclusion of material on birth control or safer sex. "

"According to Advocates for Youth, public opinion polls consistently show that more than 80 percent of Americans support teaching comprehensive sex education in high schools and in middle or junior high schools."

"Young People Need Sexual Health Education

Over 1 million young people ages 15-19 live in Florida."

"Many become sexually active as teens. It is important to provide information to protect their health and their futures before they need it."

According to the CDC 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, among 12th graders in Florida:

- **52% report having had sexual intercourse**
- **17% have had 4 or more sexual partners (11% females, 21% males)**
- **44% did not use a condom the last time they had sex**

- **13% of females have been raped, 15% experienced sexual violence & 8% sexual dating violence**

As reported by <https://breakbingeeating.com/eating-disorder-statistics> Current Statistics on Eating Disorders in young females show:

- Subthreshold anorexia occurs in 1.1% to 3.0% of adolescent females¹⁶.
- The incidence has increased over the last 50 years only in females aged 15 to 24.
- These statistics climbed during the Covid Pandemic.

Do you want to play a part in these statistics? These people advocate for this, and big money is put behind pushing this through the publishers and authors to write it. We know it happen and cannot be stopped but do not play a hand in giving out the instructions for it. No Pornography and sexual abstinence is the LAW.

Florida Statute [1003.46](#) in health education states:

- (b) Teach abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage as the expected standard for all school-age students while teaching the benefits of monogamous heterosexual marriage.
- (c) Emphasize that abstinence from sexual activity is a certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, including acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and other associated health problems.
- (d) Teach that each student has the power to control personal behavior and encourage students to base actions on reasoning, self-esteem, and respect for others.

These stories glorify or make abortion and out of wedlock sexual , as well as to push anorexic/bulimic/self-harming behaviors to be normal. They promote this kind of behavior instead of counteracting it at the end of a story “IF” it was to be an education lesson. These

are not educational. I understand that it is just supplemental reading, but it is instilling ideas of worthlessness and lack of self-esteem.

5. What would you like the final outcome to be for this library media item or items?

1. Remove from all Manatee School District Media Centers?

Remove from: (4) Parrish High

2. Remove from certain grade levels? If yes, enter grade levels: **No Copies**

3. Allow in Manatee School District Media Centers with a Parent Consent Requirement? **No Copies**