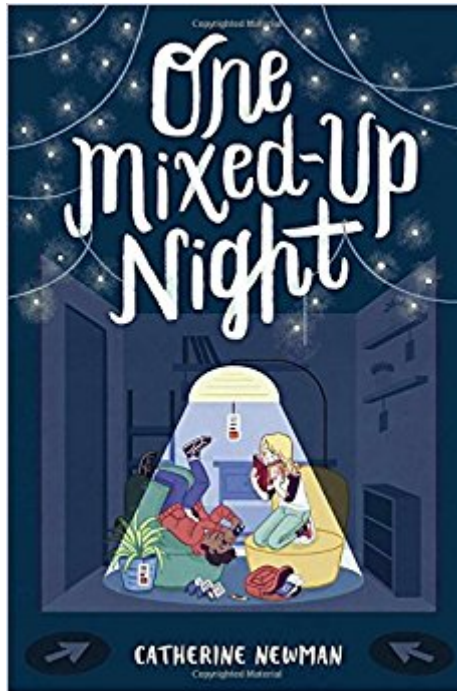




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One Mixed-Up Night



Synopsis

Two best friends on the run... to IKEA. Frankie and Walter aren't really running away. Just like the kids in their favorite book, they are running to somewhere. Specifically, a massive furniture store. They've been obsessed with the Ikea catalog for years. So they make a plan, pack their backpacks, give their parents the sleepover switcheroo . . . and they're in. One night all on their own, with no grown-ups or little brothers. One night of couch jumping, pillow forts, and unlimited soda refills. One night of surprises and twinkle lights and secrets they have been keeping and waiting to share. One unforgettable night in Ikea. A tribute to the beloved classic *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*! Only, instead of running away to the Metropolitan Museum, these kids are running away to somewhere a little more modern...

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

"A hilarious, hair-raising page turner, and an iconic portrayal of best friendship. It will be a long, long time before Frankie and Walter decamp from my heart." —Suzy Becker, author of *Kate the Great* "A dazzling debut by an author that we will hopefully be hearing much more from in the future." —Cammie McGovern, author of *Say*

What Your Will and A Step Toward Falling – “Readers will revel in Frankie and Walter’s cathartic romp and learn much about grief, family, and friendship along the way.” – Kirkus Reviews

Catherine Newman is the author of the acclaimed memoirs *Catastrophic Happiness* and *Waiting for Birdy*, as well as a columnist for *Real Simple Magazine*. This is her first book for children. She lives in Amherst, Massachusetts with her husband, kids, cat, friends, and books. Visit her at www.catherinenewmanwriter.com.

One Mixed-Up Night. Now is this as good as the *Mixed - Up files* .. no way. However my daughter and I wanted to give it a try to see what it would be like because we are such huge fans of that book and so it seemed logical to give this one a try. It is a fun simple read that many will enjoy. We both really liked the friendship between the two main characters and how it just makes you feel like what life and being young/innocent should be all about. That a boy and girl can be simply friends and amazing ones at that. Now did things happen in this story that might be a bit too wrapped up in the end of course. I do feel like it was a bit the only way it could turn out. The two friends decide to sneak away to stay the night at Ikea because Frankie is trying to bring Walter back to be the boy she knows but something tragic has happened in his life to make the sparkle dim in him. This is the only way she can think of to try to bring him back because they both are crazy about Ikea. They hatch a plan and end up in the store after it is locked up. Then the fun really begins with the things they do while in the building. Some things do not go as planned but they did not intentionally mean to cause such damage. Some of it they even tried to fix themselves. In the end they do have to work extra jobs to pay for some of what happened during their stay. There is a little sadness and plenty of fun and adventure in the story. Enough to keep the young audience interested. Very fun and quick read for the 8-12 year range.

One Mixed-Up Night re-imagines the classic *From The Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* and presents a story that is likely to appeal to a wide range of readers by mixing some real silliness with some surprising doses of raw emotion. The two kids at the center of this story were certainly interesting and unique! Best friends since preschool and now in sixth grade, Frankie is committed to helping Walter overcome his grief and begin to move on from the death of his father. They share a devotion to all things IKEA and when they hatch a plan to spend the night in the store, readers will be fascinated to learn if they can really pull it off and what kind of trouble they might get into. The

author does a great job of incorporating some pretty profound observations on grief and loss into this silly story of friendship. When Frankie talks about the loss of Walter's sparkle you know exactly what she means and it's great to see Walter regain his "Waltherness". This is a nice read for the 8-12 age group even though the ending fell rather flat for me as there didn't seem to be many consequences for our beloved duo for some well-intentioned but ultimately pretty irresponsible actions. Still a recommend for young readers, especially those with a fondness for IKEA that I will confess is totally beyond my understanding.

My grandson and I both read this book separately and then compared notes. My grandson loved it, but then he loves IKEA, as does his mother. He knows IKEA from top to bottom, just like Frankie and her good friend, Walter. Walter has been off his mark for a few months. Frankie has been unable to get to the bottom of whatever is going on. Since they both love IKEA, they decide to run away for a night. They give each other alibis by saying they are staying overnight at the other's house. With their backpacks, off they go. The problems are discovered, but not before all the fun that is to be had at IKEA is had. What a remarkable book. The writing was perfect for 10-12 year kids and for the adults who live with them. This did not take long for my grandson to read, nor for me. He wanted a continuation of the story, and maybe that will be forthcoming. IKEA has a big PR deal here, wonder if they will do anything with it? Start an overnight stay at IKEA for kids, oh what fun! Recommended. prisrob 07-20-17

I woke up last night at two a.m. feeling too hot and I knew that my husband enjoying his just right temperature. So I decided to finish *One Mixed UP Night* by Catherine Newman in the living room with the ceiling fan going strong. There were two friends, both six graders who had known each other from kindergarten who thought of themselves as Nerds. They had a passion for a well known furniture chain store. The two, Frankie (a girl) and Walter plan an overnight stay at the store and have a lifetime of different adventures and reveal their secrets to each other. This not telling you much of what happened, that is for you to discover but one of the best things in this book is that the author lets the kids think about the consequences and also discuss some very serious topics in their lives. The writing is spot on but I loved reading the thoughts of the kids.

Resident child enjoyed this one. But you need to understand. She loves Ikea. On a rainy day, when I want to get her out of the house, she likes going to Ikea, sitting on every chair, every sofa, mentally redecorating her room, and shopping for toys. And, of course, she loves the food. And as she's told

me about a dozen times, the book mentions the meatballs. I read the book as well. Aside from all things Ikea, the book manages to be both a funny and touching adventure. Books dealing with the death of a parent are especially hard for my daughter, but she ended up loving this book. The grief was handled well - touching without being so depressing she couldn't read it. My daughter would like to read more from this author in the future!

Playing on the classic *From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, a childhood favorite of mine, this is the story of Frankie and Walter who run away to live in Ikea, a fantasy many have had while roaming the giant behemoth stores. While filled with fun what ifs and a lot of kid-appealing adventure, this doesn't say away from the larger, more serious issues, that drive Frankie and Walter to want to hide out in the first place. Sweet, touching and silly enough to draw middle grades in quickly, this can't quite compare to the Met adventures from the original, but it's a worthy spiritual successor for a new generation. My 10-year-old loved it.

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