

# **Eleven Things I Promised**

By Catherine Clark



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Catherine Clark has crafted a poignant story about the distances one girl is willing to go in the name of friendship that is at once funny, heartbreaking, and utterly romantic.

Seventeen-year-old Frances wouldn't describe herself as adventurous. Until now . . .

Frances has one week—while she'll be away from home competing in a high school bike race—to do every single thing on the Fix-It List. Ten crazy, totally out-of-character ideas her best friend, Stella, came up with to make the bike ride unforgettable. However, as each item on the F-It List opens Frances up to new adventures, new friends, and possibly even a new romance, it becomes increasingly difficult for Frances to keep the one promise that she knows she absolutely must obey—her promise to not tell anyone the truth about the accident that left Stella broken and angry, and started Frances on her quest to complete the list.

When it comes to friendship, Frances must decide what distances she's willing to go, and what risks she's willing to take, for the person she cares about the most.



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## Eleven Things I Promised By Catherine Clark Bibliography

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#### **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

Gr 7–10—Frances is in over her head. Months ago she signed up for a 350-mile charity bike ride with her best friend Stella. Now Stella is home recuperating from serious injuries sustained while training, and Frances is on her own, having pledged to complete the ride for Stella. She even vows to fulfill Stella's Bike Trip F(ix)-It List—10 things Stella had wanted to do on the ride to shake up her life. But Frances isn't Stella. She's not a bike rider, and she's not outgoing; the other riders on her high school team are people with whom Frances would never normally associate. But Frances is carrying a heavier burden yet—the secret of just how badly Stella was injured, knowledge she does not want made public. Adding to Frances's turmoil is a developing relationship with Stella's older brother, Mason. Clark presents a heartwarming portrayal of friendship, romance, and growth. Frances is an extremely likable character. As she struggles with the physical demands of the bike ride, she also grows emotionally, learning to get along with a diverse group of classmates, conquering a fear of heights, and discovering the value of trusting people. While Stella's introduction into the story and her eventual acceptance of her new physical limitations seem a bit rushed, they do not detract from the book. Frances is a heroine who doesn't just rise to the challenge; she soars. VERDICT Extremely entertaining—give to fans of Maureen Johnson's 13 Little Blue Envelopes (HarperCollins, 2015).—Nancy Nadig, Penn Manor School District, Lancaster, PA

About the Author

Catherine Clark is the author of *Maine Squeeze*, *Love and Other Things I'm Bad At*, *Picture Perfect*, *Wish You Were Here*, *The Alison Rules*, *Unforgettable Summer*, and many others. She lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

## **Users Review**

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