



**STOP!**  
a novel  
alison g. bailey

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*Alison G. Bailey*

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# Stop!

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**Stop!** Alison G. Bailey

Every life has a different path full of sharp turns, smooth curves, and steep drop offs.

Hollis Murphy has a plan—college, career, boyfriend, love, marriage, family. A predictable, normal life. She's on track until an outside force causes her to crash and burn. They call it an accident, because that's the only word they know to explain what happens to her. It helps everyone move on with their lives, except for Hollis. She holds on to the belief that she's been targeted for a reason.

Risher Stevenson is intelligent, caring, sweet, and the hottest boy Hollis has ever laid eyes on. He fits perfectly into her original plan for a normal life. Everyone loves him.

Benton Daniels is intelligent, caring, sweet, and the bravest boy Hollis has ever met. He doesn't fit into her life but gives it purpose and makes it extraordinary. Everyone hates him.

One is bullied. One is tormented. All are judged. How will it STOP?

## Stop! Details

Date : Published June 25th 2015 (first published June 7th 2015)

ISBN :

Author : Alison G. Bailey

Format : Paperback 278 pages

Genre : New Adult, Romance, Contemporary, Sociology, Abuse, Academic, College, Young Adult

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# From Reader Review Stop! for online ebook

## Crysti Perry says

When Alison messaged me and asked me if I'd be interested in reading an ARC of Stop!, I didn't have to think twice before I gave her my answer. I'd seen all the messages about how many tears had been shed as a result of reading this book. I swear sometimes my tear ducts don't work or I have a black heart, so I'm always looking for something that will bring on the waterworks.

Stop! didn't make me cry. What it did do was even better. Was it sad? It definitely had sad moments. There were also quite a few funny moments. But, what I'm pulled back to as I reflect on what it was that made Stop! a five-star read for me are the moments that made ME stop and think.

Why do we as a society assign labels to people? What is "normal"? Have I ever been cruel to someone because of a label? If I have, shame on me!

At first, I wasn't sure what Stop! was going to be about. As I do with most books, I went into this one blind. The direction the author went in was a shock for me. I imagined another plot unfolding, but was pleasantly and intriguingly surprised with what she did. Stop! is definitely different from any books I've read lately, and that's a rarity these days.

Sorry for the vague review, but I won't spoil this book for anyone. It's a journey you need to take for yourselves.

And, in closing, let me just add that I love me a man with a beautiful mind. <3

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## Paula says

While I did enjoy reading this story for the most part, I absolutely hated the ending. The main character's storyline felt incomplete and rushed. Even with the epilogue, the story ended too abruptly. And I truly feel like the secondary character Abigail should've had her own story.

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## Christine (Shh Moms Reading) says

5 heartfelt Benton stars

Stop! by Alison G. Bailey is very different from her prior series (in a very good way). I loved the Perfect series but Stop! brings Ms. Bailey's writing to a whole other level.

You see while the Perfect series is fiction that you completely fall in love with because it takes you out of reality for a bit while you immerse yourself in a good book, Stop! is real life...Stop! makes you think about the world we live in, how we behave and act towards each other, how we want to be better people and teach our youth to act towards one another so that there is a brighter tomorrow and future for this world. Stop! just

blew me away.

This is a difficult review to write because I don't want to reveal the story as it should be revealed to the reader as the author intended.

So instead I will say this...for readers looking for their next emotional read, who want to take away an important message that could change how you act towards others, who want to learn something that you don't know about and to maybe teach someone a thing or two about the importance of words and really doing onto others as you would want done to you...then pick up this book.

Yes, there are certain situations that get ugly in this book but this is reality...this happens to people daily. Rather than be oblivious as to what goes on around us, let's try and change the world to make it a better place.

I don't know about you but I am a mom of three children and daily I worry about bullying or how others will treat my kids. I worry what the world will be like for them one day when I am gone. More than anything, I want them to be good people, caring, kind and filled to the brim with compassion and understanding. But what they learn and know comes from the home and when they are older, I want them to read books like *Stop!* because my hope is that they learn something from books like these that will make them people that I will forever be proud of because I know that they will treat people like how they deserve to be treated. And that they will open to their hearts and minds to everyone.

I know I am not saying much about the book...and I'm sorry that I can't reveal more...just read it....learn something...and be good to each other <3

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## **Christy says**

### **4.5 stars!**

“Things aren’t always black and white... There’s a lot of grey in the world.”

This is one of those books that was hard to read and is going to be even harder to review. *Stop!* is a story about three college freshman. Hollis, Risher, and Benton. These three characters were so different but I adored all three of them equally (and no- there is no love triangle). I admired the strength they had.

Hollis is a girl who is hiding who she is behind a mask of makeup. She has seen how people look at her and treat her without it so now it’s her mask and she’s comfortable that way. She just wants to be normal and have a normal life.

When she meets Risher, the sweet and popular college guy, Hollis can’t believe that he’s giving her of all people attention. Risher could have any girl he wanted, but he chooses Hollis. He sees the beauty on the inside and the outside of her. Then there is Benton. A kid who’s lost in the world but finds friendship and

acceptance with Hollis. I feel like I can't say more about these characters or their stories. You need to read it for yourself and find out more.

I love Bailey's writing style and storytelling abilities. I especially love that she is willing to tackle not so easy to write about topics. This book wasn't as angsty as her Perfect series, but it had my emotions all over the place. I think I cried non-stop the entire last 10% of the book. I felt gutted by the events that took place. Thank goodness for the beauty of the epilogue. Things turned out just the way they were supposed to after all the tragedy and heartache. *Stop!* is definitely a book I would recommend- but only if you can handle some strong emotions and subject matter that's not easy to read about.

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### **Philomena Callan Cheekypee says**

This was a total and unexpected wonderful surprise for me. STOP brought out so many emotions in me. I thought the author did a fabulous job in how well she portrayed the characters as real. My heart bled as I went through emotions with the characters.

Now I find myself struggling to write a review as I really don't want to spoil this for anyone. With STOP I feel the reader needs to go into the story blind and FEEL the story.

I inhaled STOP. With a subject matter that some people will find hard to read I really do feel that STOP is a must read.

Brilliant story. Make sure you have tissues ready. Loved it.

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### **Alison Bailey says**

Read Stop! (Bestseller, Teen and Young Adult) for FREE as part of Kindle Unlimited.

Amazon

<http://tinyurl.com/oq4sfsy>

NOTE FROM AUTHOR: I appreciate each and every review. With all due respect, please keep reviews spoiler free or place a WARNING at the beginning. Don't take the moment of discovery away from another reader. Thank you.

\*Stop! is a Contemporary Fiction novel, dealing with important issues in a realistic manner.

Stop! Book Trailer

<https://youtu.be/TDATYspIYwA>

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## Sarah says

(Source: I received a digital copy of this book for free on a read-to-review basis. Thanks to author Alison G. Bailey.)

*“It was important to me to show my scars to Abigail or anyone else on my terms. When I was ready.”*

This was a YA contemporary story about a girl who was bullied because of facial scarring.

I felt quite sorry for Hollis when I found out how she had ended up with her scars, as it really wasn't her fault at all, but just a freak accident. It was pretty cruel the bullying she had to put up with, and I could see why she wanted to hide from the world at times.

The storyline in this started out being about Hollis being bullied, but then became more about the bullying of a friend of hers at college, who had to put up with even worse hatred and bullying, and even physical assault. There was a bit of romance in this, and Hollis seemed to be pretty head over heels for Risher.

The ending to this was unexpected, and kind-of sad. I was certainly a bold move for the author to take though.

6 out of 10

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## Suzana says

*And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years. A.L.*

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## Michelle says

[image error]

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## Beverly says

Alison G. Bailey isn't new the book world, but she is new to me. I stumbled upon her books a few months ago when my bestie asked me to “hold her hand” during a reread. Of course, I said yes. If this book was good enough to reread I needed to read it at least once. That book shook me to my core. I am talking frantic voice messages, balling my eyes out, even sweating. Next thing I knew I was reading all her books back to back.

In my opinion books should make us feel and Alison knows how to write books that make you feel! I was terrified to start this book, I messaged my bestie and told I was scared, but “going in.” I sat down to read a

little before bed and ended up staying up finishing. Alison's writing is real, raw and emotional. In just a few pages I fell in love with her characters, but by the end my heart was breaking for the real people who live these experiences daily.

Stop! is a story three young college students just trying to really live their lives. Hollis is a beautiful girl who's face was disfigured after an accident the summer before her senior year. Fisher is the perfect guy on the outside, but his character just proves nothing is as perfect as it seems. Benton is just trying to own who he is and let me tell you, that is real life. Everyday people put on a mask of who they are supposed to be, afraid to be themselves. Stop! allows us to follow these students through their struggles of adolescence and like real life it isn't always pretty.

What I really loved about this story: it made me think. I genuinely hope I am not alone, because everyone has struggles and needs kindness and acceptance to be themselves. So this review is probably more than you bargained for, but this book is MORE.

*ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.*

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## **Donna ~ The Romance Cover says**

STOP by Alison G Bailey  
4 stars!!

“...it's your job to develop your heart and intellect. Your outside will develop on its own.”

This book deals with some tough issues, but as in true Alison Bailey style it is done with heart and class. While some scenes had me in tears, the overall love story had me page turning and I couldn't put this book down. This is more a YA/NA read, if you want a passionate read then this is not it, but this is a slow burn love, believable, full of questions and self-doubt but with good reason and all I can say is, thank god for the epilogue!

“I loved him then and I still love him. And if I can love him through all of that, why can't he love me through all of this.”

Hollis was a beautiful character both inside and out, but for the past year she had had a tough time of it and her life was to never be the same, one life altering event that would forever shape her as a person and the opinions of those around her. Starting college is always a big step for any person, but for a girl that was

extremely self-conscious and always having that mantra hanging around your head of fitting in and being accepted, college was always going to be a tough ride. Girls can be so mean, that is no secret and having been on the end of it myself I sympathised with Hollis unequivocally. Hollis was strong though, she stood up for herself, she had barbs at the ready but in secret, behind closed doors, the weight of everything would sometimes get her down.

Risher, O.M.G, one thing that Alison Bailey excels in is creating the perfect man, Risher had me swooning BIG TIME! This was a guy that was popular, all the girls wanted him, he was stunning both inside and out, but from the moment they bumped into each other, Risher only had eyes for Hollis. This was a man that knew beauty was only skin deep, he didn't look at the outside, he wanted what was on the inside, he wasn't superficial, he was a gentleman, he was perfect. He knew that Hollis had issues, but he worked around them, he gained her trust, he went softly-softly and this is exactly what Hollis needed. He was genuine, he was thoughtful, he wore his heart on his sleeve, he was fiercely protective, he was literally PERFECT!

I loved Hollis's room-mate Abigail, while in the first instance she came across as prickly it soon becomes apparent she has her own issues to contend with and a problem shared is a problem and halved and it isn't long before these two are as thick as thieves, they had each other's back, always. This epitomises an Alison Bailey read...friendship.

"Things are not always black and white, Abigail. There's a lot of grey in the world."

Every single one these characters has their flaws, their insecurities, their issues. All they want from life is to be seen for who they are, not what they are or what they represent. They just want acceptance and to be treated as a normal, human being, not much to ask...but you would be surprised. Between mean girls and awful parents these three have their work cut out but the way they work through it will have your emotions all over the place.

"Stretch your mind, open your heart, and expand your understanding."

As Mark Twain once said ***"The worst loneliness is not to be comfortable with yourself."***

I am not going to say anything about the plot as this is one of those books that needs to be read blind, know it will be emotional, know it covers some tough issues and expect the unexpected. But also know that this book is full of life lessons and ones that we can take away from, this book makes you think, re-evaluate, re-assess and I love a book that makes you think. You will run the gamut of emotions from like, love, anger, compassion, hate and despair. You will be laughing one minute and crying the next, from happy, to sad, to shocked, to swooning. This book has it all, yes it is a rollercoaster, but it is exactly like the ride itself, once you are on you can't get off, you take the ups and the downs, and you take the rough with the smooth but at the end you will be smiling because you have just been on the ride of your life.

“Never Discuss Infinity with a Mathematician. You’ll never hear the end of it.”

[www.theromancecover.com](http://www.theromancecover.com)

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## **Paige says**

### 3.5 "Finding Peace" Stars

Having read and loved Alison's Perfect series, I sort of expected this to be along similar lines even though this is not part of that series. This story was different and not what I was expecting though not in a bad way. The story of Hollis, Risher, and Benton was very emotional, timely and more a story about personal growth than romance.

Stop! starts with Hollis. She is getting ready for college after having spend her senior year being homeschooled after a terrible accident burned her face and arms. As she's trying to cope with the change in her appearance and her fluctuating emotional wellbeing, she knows she needs to leave the four walls of her bedroom. At school she runs into, literally, the gorgeous and out of her league Risher. Even so they strike up a friendship that leads to something Hollis didn't really ever expect after her accident; a boyfriend. Her roommate is a very quiet girl that is also obviously going through some struggles of her own. There's also a mysterious man in a dark hoodie Hollis continues running into. She eventually learns his name is Benton and life changes for Hollis again. While Hollis has obvious scars, Benton has invisible scars that make daily life a struggle and even Risher's life isn't as perfect as it seems. For Hollis meeting these two people shows that everyone is going through something if you look hard enough.

While there is a romance brewing between Risher and Hollis and it is a focal point of Hollis' story of growth, I wouldn't say that the romance is the actual focal point of the story and was left a little wanting in that regard. The story is really about more than the will they or won't they make it. The story is about three people coming to terms with who they are and whether or not they can accept that and move forward.

While I really enjoyed this story and think that it is a story that many young people need to hear, it was written so that it seems much more YA than NA. Even though the characters were in college, many of their actions were immature and naive at times. I also thought that the romance and struggle between Risher and Hollis was a little forced and wasn't exactly sure why they had some of the problems they did. Their relationship also seemed to be more of a way to get Hollis out of her head than because they had great chemistry. Some of the toughest issues only brushed the surface, making the story lack some depth. Finally, being a romance reader at heart, I would have loved to see more of the "love story" especially since the epilogue was so sweet.

In the end, this book is one that everyone needs to read. It not only tells a story but it teaches a lesson that needs to be learned. I applaud Alison for taking on such tough subjects and can't wait to see what else she comes up with because I will read it.

Arc gifted by Alison Bailey through Nose Stuck in a Book

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## **Pavlina Read more sleep less blog♥♥ says**

### **3,5-4 STOP! STARS**

This is my first book by Alison G. Bailey, and honestly I didn't know what to expect. What did I find in this book? I found an emotional, heartbroken and sweet story. STOP is a realistic story which deals with serious problems that concern us and each character has to deal with something.

Hollis Murphy has a bad accident when she was younger. Now is her time to go in college but is she ready? I don't want to say anything else about the story because if I say I think that I'll give away things that you shouldn't know before you read it!

I loved all the characters especially Hollis who has to deal with a bully. She has an accident and now she has some scars and tries to hide them. But when she meets Benton (I will not say who he is... because it's a spoiler so you will learn about him when you read it) she wants him to be happy and live his life. I liked her because she is sweet and she became strong through the book. Risher is so sweet and funny!! He is your typical college boy who will make you fall in love with him!!

Alison G Bailey has a beautiful way writing! I'm sure that this book is going to touch your hearts and make you love it! What I learned after finishing this book?? Everybody should love themselves exactly how they are!! I think you should definitely check this book!

ARC kindly provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Brit says**

**Advance Readers Copy (ARC) provided for my blog for an honest review from the author**

**Title: Stop!**

**Author: Alison G. Bailey**

**Pages: 278**

**Source: eARC**

**Genre: Contemporary Romance**

**Age Group: New Adult**

**Point of View: First**

**Release Date: June 25th, 2015**

**Date Read: June 19th, 2015**

**Overall Rating: 4 Stars**

*Heartbreaking*  
*Astonishing*  
*Extraordinary*

Are just the few words that run through my mind while thinking about Stop! by Alison G. Bailey. Every book I've ever read by Mrs. Bailey has pulled on my heartstrings and has made me ugly cry millions of times while reading

The thing about this book and every other book by Alison G. Bailey is the fact her characters are so much relatable and it's not just the main characters but also the secondary ones as well and no matter how much you brace yourself you will still cry.

It is one of the most powerful book that has been released this year alone. It was also one of the books that was hard to put down but in the end you just wanted to finish it

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## **Sophie "Beware Of The Reader" says**

5 "I can't stop thinking about this book" stars!

I read "Present Perfect" by Alison Bailey years ago and it was one of these books that made me cry ugly tears. It was nearly too overwhelming for me. I was so angry with the heroine because she sacrificed herself. I thought it was sometimes borderline stupid how she would push this perfect boy away.

Anyway, when Alison Bailey offered to send some Stop! copies in exchange for an honest review, I prayed she had some left as her book made such a lasting impression.

Here is my review and no, I never give 5 stars if I don't honestly think it's worth it, even if the author gave me the book (incorruptible is my middle name).

Stop! Is like a Russian doll. You open the first doll and there is a second one inside, then a third and a fourth. When you reach the core (the pinnacle of the story) it ends on a loud "bang" and your heart is ripped off your chest. I could not believe what I've just read. I was left with my mouth open like a dead fish (not an attractive sight), my thoughts in a jumble. No, oh no, no, nooo! This just not happened! I was lucky the author did not leave me with this last scene but added a happier epilogue. Still, it's a story that makes you think and see the ugliness of many "normal" people, the battle "imperfect" or different people have to fight in their everyday life just to mingle among their peers, to be recognized and accepted for their true self.

Get ready to be shaken, stricken and overwhelmed but all happening in a crescendo.

Some input on the story now, to give you an idea of what this book is about. Know that some important aspects of the story won't be revealed as I don't want to spoil your fun.

Hollis is about to begin her first college year. She is a math geek and wants to become a college professor. She's been in an accident a year ago that left her disfigured. The half of her face and her arm have been deeply burnt and even with the skin graft and surgery, her skin isn't smooth anymore and a big scar runs

from her eyebrow to her chin.

She tried to go back to school for her last high school year but: **"The stares were relentless. They weren't the good kind either...They held their ground and let me know in no uncertain terms that I didn't belong...These people I considered to be friends were acting like I had the plague."**

She then asked her parents to be homeschooled and kept herself isolated.

Hollis wanted to live the life she had planned though and that's why she convinced her parents to let her live the college experience.

Here is the first layer of the story: Hollis battle to accept her "new self" and face the outside world.

**"I hoped the day would come soon when I could look in the mirror and notice my heart-shaped lips, my long lashes, and my bright blue eyes, instead of this giant splotch."**

**"There had to be a purpose. People didn't suffer for no reason."**

On her moving day, she'll meet Risher, tall, handsome and gorgeous green eyes Risher. She'll be attracted to him right away but won't dare hoping he could be interested in someone like her, so imperfect, so scarred whereas long legs big boobs blonde bimbos like Leah (I wanted to slap that girl so bad!) were on the prowl for boys like him.

Risher is persistent though and he'll push through Hollis walls. Their love story was sweet. He is one of these perfect romance boys.

Usually the male character makes a stronger impression on me than the female character, even with the "real" hero being the female protagonist. This was not the case: my heart has been stolen by a side character: Abigail.

Abigail is the second Russian doll in the story. Blonde Abigail, Hollis roommate, with pink luggage and very pink clothes. Elusive Abigail, always gone when Hollis wakes up, never in the room before Hollis is asleep. Abigail will shatter your world, make your soul weep until the very end. I can't tell more without giving away her secret but know that she'll remain in my heart for a long time. Readers who loved Forbidden by Tabitha Suzuma will feel the same emotion. They will be lost once the story ends, even if this is not about the same taboo topic.

I love Alison Baily for writing about such sensitive topics. She does not shy away and goes straight to the heart of the matter. We feel and hurt right along her characters and at the end of the story, we're left with a bittersweet taste and a new insight. Thank you Alison for speaking about these topics, thank you for being "their" voice, thank you for opening my eyes.

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