

Librarian Booktalk Guide

For

Jane in Bloom

By Deborah Lytton

A. Interest Level: Middle Grade (10 and up)

B. Genre: Contemporary fiction, family drama.

C. Related topics: Grief, eating disorders, self-image, recovery from grief, photography as recovery tool.

D. Booktalk Synopsis:

In the shadow of loss, a wallflower blossoms

Jane's big sister Lizzie has always been the center of attention. No one ever pays attention to boring, *plain* Jane. But when Jane's twelfth birthday marks the beginning of Lizzie's final descent into a fatal eating disorder, Jane discovers that the only thing harder than living in her big sister's shadow, is living without her.

In the wake of tragedy, Jane learns to look through her camera lens and frame life differently, embracing her broken family and understanding that every girl has her season to blossom.

E. One line Hook: A 12 year old's recovery from the grief of losing her beloved big sister to an eating disorder.

F. Related Reads:

Bull Rider by Suzanne Morgan Williams (which is about a boy trying to cope with his older brother's life changing injuries in Iraq).

Models Don't Eat Chocolate Cookies by Erin Dionne (about teen self image and dieting).

Skin by Adrienne Maria Vrettos (about a teen's eating disorders told from a brother's perspective).

Perfect by Natasha Friend (about a teen with eating disorders and her recovery).