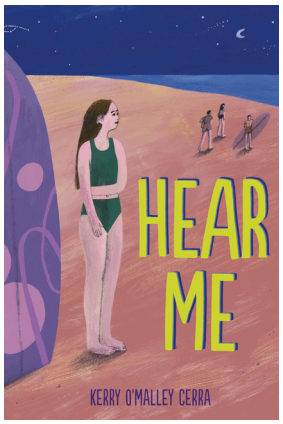
* FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY * FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY *

Name _____ Date _____



Hear Me
by Kerry O'Malley Cerra

Includes Author Interview!

Read Aloud Video

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

A year after being diagnosed with hearing loss, twelve-year-old Rayne is doing her best to live a 'normal' life and act like nothing has changed. But her hearing keeps failing her. Even with hearing aids, she has trouble following conversations and hanging out with her friends the way she used to. Her grades are slipping, surfing is now a wipeout, and she can't understand the lyrics of her favorite singer's new songs. Rayne's parents are pushing for her to get cochlear implants, which could restore her hearing—though she would hear sounds differently than she did before her hearing loss. Rayne isn't convinced the surgery for CIs is worth the risks and challenges. In fact, she's terrified of it. She begs her parents to consider other options, but they're not budging. With the surgery looming, Rayne sets off on a search for alternatives. Along the way, she discovers that 'normal' can have many meanings—and that even though her ears may be broken, she is not.

Who Wrote It?

1. I love lists! I can't function without lists.
2. Thirteen is my lucky number, and of course this list has 13 items.
3. The best job I ever had—other than writing for kids & teens—was at Sea World.
4. My daughter is a marine biologist turned marine science teacher.
5. I come from a huge family.
6. I loved working in a high school. I started as a social studies teacher and then worked as a media specialist.
7. I live in South Florida.
8. I married my college boyfriend, and we have 3 awesome kids. My family is my world!
9. I'm a sucker for stray animals, and I seem to take them in frequently. I currently have 2 poorly behaved rescue dogs who own my heart.
10. I was diagnosed with sensorineural hearing loss at the age of 16. It's a progressive loss, and by the age of 30, I sported my first hearing aids.
11. I love traveling and great adventures.
12. I was born in New Jersey, just over the bridge from Philadelphia. (Go, Eagles! Go, Phillies!)
13. Teachers are the absolute best! I have three who changed the course of my life.

AR Reading Level: N/A Lexile Level: N/A

I want to read this book: YES / NO

WHAT I THINK

Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.