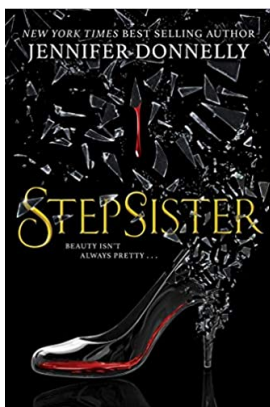


Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Stepsister

## by Jennifer Donnelly



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?

Isabelle should be blissfully happy - she's about to win the handsome prince. Except Isabelle isn't the beautiful girl who lost the glass slipper and captured the prince's heart. She's the ugly stepsister who's cut off her toes to fit into Cinderella's shoe... which is now filling with her blood. When the prince discovers Isabelle's deception, she's turned away in shame. It's no more than she deserves: she's a plain girl in a world that values beauty; a bold girl in a world that wants her to be pliant. Isabelle has tried to fit in. She cut away pieces of herself in order to become pretty. Sweet. More like Cinderella. But that only made her mean, jealous, and hollow. Now she has a chance to alter her destiny and prove what ugly stepsisters have always known: it takes more than heartache to break a girl. Evoking the original version of the Cinderella story, bestselling author Jennifer Donnelly uses her trademark wit and wisdom to send an overlooked character on a journey toward empowerment, redemption... and a new definition of beauty.

### Who Wrote It?

Jennifer was born in New York and before becoming a writer worked as an antiques dealer, journalist, and copywriter. With her first novel for teen readers, Jennifer Donnelly achieved the distinction of being only the second American author to win Great Britain's prestigious Carnegie Medal for children's literature. Donnelly's *A Northern Light* was originally published in England as *A Gathering Light*. When she writes, she usually has a pot of strong tea and a bar of dark chocolate for company and courage. She plots and plans and schemes and dreams in longhand, but does the actual writing on my computer. Jennifer



now makes her home in Brooklyn, New York, where she lives with her husband, daughter, and two greyhounds. You can connect with her via her website: [www.jenniferdonnelly.com](http://www.jenniferdonnelly.com)

AR Reading Level: 4.7

Lexile Level: 640L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆

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