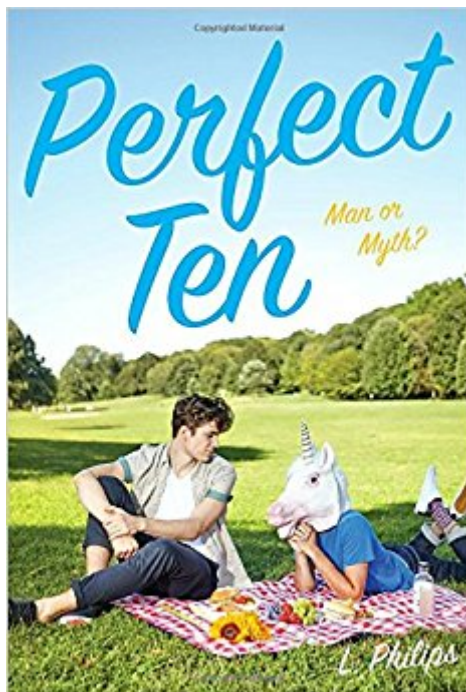


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# Perfect Ten



## Synopsis

"A sweet summer read about a boy looking for love and the lengths he will go to to find it." [Teen Vogue](#) "It's been two years since Sam broke up with the only other eligible gay guy in his high school, so to say he's been going through a romantic drought is the understatement of the decade. When Meg, his ex-Catholic-turned-Wiccan best friend, suggests performing a love spell, Sam is just desperate enough to try. He crafts a list of ten traits he wants in a boyfriend and burns it in a cemetery at midnight on Friday the thirteenth. Enter three seemingly perfect guys, all in pursuit of Sam. There's Gus, the suave French exchange student; Jamie, the sweet and shy artist; and Travis, the guitar-playing tattooed enigma. Even Sam's ex-boyfriend, Landon, might want another chance. But does a Perfect Ten even exist? Find out in this delectable coming-of-age romcom with just a touch of magic."

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #154,846 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Magical Realism](#) #206 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Gay & Lesbian](#) #403 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Dating & Sex](#)

## Customer Reviews

- A [Seventeen](#) Best Book of 2017 "A fun, swoony, and romantic novel that honestly expresses the trials and tribulations of finding the right one." [BuzzFeed](#) "A sweet summer read about a boy looking for love and the lengths he will go to to find it." [Teen Vogue](#) "If you like a solid YA read that makes you shamelessly squee, [Perfect Ten](#) will deliver." [HelloGiggles](#) "You can count on [Perfect Ten](#) to make you laugh, think, and, ultimately grow what more can we ask from a coming-of-age love story? L. Philips treats her characters and her characters' love with the respect and heart they deserve. An absolute delight to read." [John Corey Whaley](#), Printz Award-winning author of

Where Things Come Back"Perfect Ten is a smart, messy, complicated romance, full of swoony kisses and lie-on-the-floor heartbreak and unexpected twists of fate—just like love itself."

—Katie Cotugno, *New York Times* — bestselling author of *How to Love and 99 Days* — "Perfect Ten is a perfect ten. Romantic, sweet, and far wiser than expected. A breezy romcom that is as smart as it is fun, with characters that leap off the page."

—Bill Konigsberg, award-winning author of *Honestly Ben* and *Openly Straight*—"The most fantastic, hopeful, aspirational story of gay teens in a red state since David Levithan's *Boy Meets Boy*."

—Aaron Hartzler, author of Lambda Literary Award finalist *Rapture Practice*—"Perfect Ten is: 1. Adorable 2. Heartbreaking 3. Funny 4. Delightful 5. Unexpected 6. Queer 7. Moving 8. Honest 9. Unapologetic 10. A must-read."

—Michael Barakiva, author of *One Man Guy*—"Perfect Ten is as charming as it is relevant. A stunning, twenty-first-century teen romance that will have readers begging for more. In a word, it's *Magick*."

—J. H. Trumble, author of Lambda Literary Award finalist *Don't Let Me Go*—"Cute and catchy . . . An engaging read."

—*Romantic Times*—"This surprisingly tender rom-com explores relationships with an authenticity that's full of heart and poetic splendor. The novel bravely examines some of the pitfalls of young love in a manner that neither makes Sam unlikable nor lets him off the hook for his behavior. His decisions and actions aren't always admirable as he navigates his way through his mistakes and inexperience, yet they will be sure to elicit sympathy from those who have had their own misadventures in love . . . Fans of Stephanie Perkins or David Levithan will discover much to love about this sweet confection of a tale."

—*School Library Journal*—"Like its literary godparent *Boy Meets Boy* by David Levithan, the point of L. Philips' lighthearted story isn't to reflect reality so much as to enhance it. A fun, sweet and sexy summer read for anyone who's ever sought (and maybe even found) that special person, perfect or not."

—*BookPage*—"Philips writes a fresh and honest male romance that is not centered on issues of coming out or bullying . . . The blunt honesty about sex makes this a dramatic and refreshing read."

—*VOYA*—"Sweet and satisfying . . . Like one of the ultimately lucky three, this is a keeper."

—*Booklist*—"Philips keeps this wish-fulfillment fantasy moving briskly, thanks to the quippy dialogue"

—*Publishers Weekly*—"Perfect Ten is a little ridiculous and a whole lot of fun. Sam's grounded and self-deprecating voice keeps the story real, even in the face of a lot of larger than life characters and extreme plot twists, and the humor is classic."

—*Book Riot*

L. Philips went to Ohio University for a degree in music education, decided that job was entirely too

noisy, and became a librarian instead. When she's not working, she enjoys belting out show tunes when she thinks no one is listening and watching the same episodes of Thomas the Tank Engine over and over (or at least that's what she tells her toddler son). She lives in Ohio.

First of all, if you're turned off by paranormal stories, don't let the paranormal themes surrounding this book turn you off. Nothing paranormal actually happens, and events can be written off to coincidence. Perfect Ten is a fun tale of a desperately lonely gay high school boy who after participating in a Wiccan ceremony is confronted by three very hot and very different potential lovers, all of them meeting the ten things he wants in a boyfriend, the perfect ten. Add to that the boy's best friend, who used to be his boyfriend, getting in on the action, and suddenly our main character has his hands full. This book is about learning lessons on the road to relationships, and about finding true and real love. It's fun because you have a boy suddenly presented with this plethora of boys to choose from, and all of the romantic situations he finds himself in. And his two best friends are along for the ride. The book is well written and filled with very likable characters. I strongly recommend Perfect Ten.

Thoroughly engaging story with well-drawn characters, emotional impact, multiple plot twists, YA gay romance, friendships, and magical elements. Impossible to put down! The story grabs ahold of you and won't let you go until "The End". Highly recommended!

Perfect Ten is the perfect book to add to your summer reading list. A fun read with a plot you will not be able to predict.

If you had your choice of ten qualities that comprised your significant other, what would you pick? In L. Philips's Perfect Ten, Sam makes a list of the ten qualities he'd like in a boyfriend, but do they live up to his expectations in reality? Sam has had a romantic dry spell for the two years after breaking up with his then-boyfriend and now-friend Landon. His other friend Meg, convinced her Wiccan knowledge can help bring ideal guys to Sam, asks him to come up with a list of ten desired qualities for a spell. Once the spell has been cast, it not only rains, but pours. It seems as if there are loads of guys, previously undiscovered, to potentially fit the Perfect Ten, which leaves Sam juggling his attraction to and feelings for them as he sorts out who best fits his list and who he wants to be with. The premise of this story was quite intriguing, but it was difficult

to believe that the characters were supposed to be real because they seemed so exaggerated in their qualities to the point of merely being constructed characters and not actual people, not to mention that some of the actions they were taking were rather unrealistic. There was a moment in the narrative that I was worried would be how the story ended as it was horribly clichéd, but fortunately it didn't stick to that particular route and deviated to a mildly different, more rewarding one. But in putting these aspects aside, this is a fairly entertaining, yet standard, story of not realizing what you have and actually want until you've lost it, with added teenage drama and some enjoyable witty banter for additional flair.

I was really looking forward to this book. LGBTQ literature is still not exactly mainstream so I think it's great when a book comes along that has a diverse character. This especially charmed me because this isn't a coming out story. Sam is already out in the open even though his school only has two gay students... Sam and his ex-boyfriend Landon. Sam and Landon are back to being friends after their breakup. Now, Sam, Landon and their friend Meg do a ritual to call forth a perfect man for Landon... someone who will meet all of Sam's top ten requirements. This story was very readable. It moved along at a nice pace and the author did a great job in writing the story. But there was one big problem for me and I couldn't get past it. Sam was completely unlikeable for me. He showed no regards for Landon's feelings when it was obviously he was still in love with him, but he would 'stroke his knee' or 'lay his head on his shoulder'. When he meets Gus, he is quick to jump right into the kissing and physical stuff with no real knowledge of this guy at all. Then he meets Jamie, who is basically really perfect, and he treats him like dirt for fooling around with yet a third guy named Travis. He isn't even all that nice to his friend Meg. No slut-shaming here but when the other parties believe there is something deeper going on and Sam plays with their feelings, that is just wrong. I thought the story was entertaining but I was pretty disgusted by Sam and I honestly would have been fine if he had to remain single a little longer so he could grow up a little more.

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