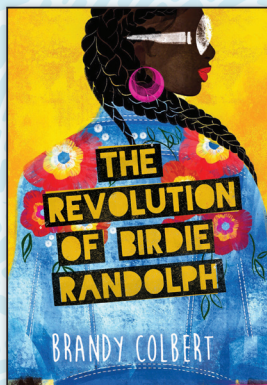


# THE REVOLUTION OF BIRDIE RANDOLPH

BRANDY COLBERT

**“Brandy’s ability to find larger meaning in small moments is nothing short of dazzling.”**

—#1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Everything, Everything*, Nicola Yoon



Book Club Pick

## ABOUT THE BOOK:

Dove “Birdie” Randolph works hard to be the perfect daughter and follow the path her parents have laid out for her: She quit playing her beloved soccer, she keeps her nose buried in textbooks, and she’s on track to finish high school at the top of her class. But then Birdie falls hard for Booker, a sweet boy with a troubled past . . . whom she knows her parents will never approve of. When her estranged aunt Carlene returns to Chicago and moves into the family’s apartment above their hair salon, Birdie notices the tension building at home. Carlene is sweet, friendly, and open-minded—she’s also spent decades in and out of treatment facilities for addiction. As Birdie becomes closer to both Booker and Carlene, she yearns to spread her wings. But when long-buried secrets rise to the surface, everything she’s known to be true is turned upside down.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you think the book is called *The Revolution of Birdie Randolph*, rather than *The Revolution of Dove Randolph*? The main character is usually addressed as “Dove,” with the exception of her mother (who nicknames her “Birdie”). Why do you think the author chose to title the book using Dove’s nickname, rather than her given name?
2. Why does Dove connect so much with Carlene? What does Carlene understand about Dove’s life that Dove’s mother has a harder time empathizing with?
3. Dove’s mother holds Dove to exceptionally high standards—do you think these standards are affected by race? Why is it particularly important for Dove to be “perfect” in the eyes of society, especially as a black girl?
4. Why is Dove afraid to tell her mother about Booker? Why do you think Dove believes Kitty won’t accept Booker?
5. As Dove’s feelings for Booker grow, what are ways that Dove takes control of her sexuality?
6. Dove and Mimi’s relationship as sisters is much different from Carlene and Kitty’s—why?
7. How does addiction affect Dove’s family?
8. What are ways that Dove misjudges Mitchell? How does her perception of Mitchell change by the end of the book, and how does Dove’s character grow because of it?
9. Would you forgive your family if you were in Dove’s situation? Why do you think Dove chooses to forgive her family’s secrets?
10. In your opinion, what makes a person a mother? How do you think Dove would answer this question?