



## MOMS FOR LIBERTY – HERNANDO COUNTY CHAPTER CURRICULUM & MATERIALS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Julia Thomas  
PO Box 1568 – Brooksville, Florida, 34605  
M4LHernando.CMRCChair@gmail.com

Hernando County School District  
919 North Broad Street.  
Brooksville, FL 34601

RE: HHS "All The Things We Do In The  
Dark" (M4LHC – 041/2023)

October 9, 2023

Hernando County School District,

You will find an attached official challenge request from (M4LHC 041-23) for "*All The Things We Do In The Dark*" which is currently located at Hernando High School's media center. This book was discovered back on July 22q, 2023.

"All The Things We Do In The Dark" contains sexual age-inappropriate, profanity; sexual activities; alternate sexualities, and helping suicide reference. The book clearly shows a warning label for 18 years of age and up

The actions of the media specialist or administrative staff in selecting this book currently violates H.B 467 s. 847.012 (b) that media specialists are responsible for selecting books free of pornographic and sexually explicit materials. Furthermore, the Hernando County School District is also in violation of H.B 1557 for teaching and/ or introducing sexual orientation and gender identity to children, as well as multiple provisions of H.B. 1069.

As the newly elected Committee Chair for the Curriculum and Materials Review Committee of the Hernando County Chapter of Moms for Liberty, I remind you that besides the District of Hernando County Schools being in violation, it is not the responsibility of the District or any staff employed by the District to make a decision concerning these mature topics. District Staff should not be encouraging minors to read a book for adults only.

In closing, I'm calling on the Hernando County School Board to remove this book, from Hernabdo High School effective immediately, and in accordance with District Policy (*Media Specialist Handbook*), and H.B. 1069 which both clearly state that books can't be "disappeared" (*i.e., hidden*) but instead properly disposed of not only through steps outlined in the Media Specialist Handbook regarding the disposal of books, but also accurately noted as disposed of in Alexandria as outlined in H.B. 1069.

In Liberty,

*Julia Thomas*

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

Request for Reconsideration of Media Materials/Instructional Materials

Instructions: Complete and return this form with all materials to be reviewed.

Please type or print..

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL APPLICABLE INFORMATION:

Have you read or viewed the entire material? Yes

Request Initiated by (first and last name JT

Address : PO Box 1568 City Brooksville State FL Zip Code 34605

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email (optional)

M4IHernando.CMRCCChair@gmail.com

Date of Request: October 9, 2023 Author: Saundra Mitchell

Title: "All The Things We Do In The Dark"

Publisher, Date of Publication/Production, Type of Media: Harper Teen 2019

School(s) in which item is used: Hernando High School

What first prompted your concern? Please See Attached

To what in the material do you object? (Please be specific, cite pages, frames, etc. Attach additional pages if necessary) Please See Attached

Are you aware of the judgement of this educational material by literary and/or authoritative critics?

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

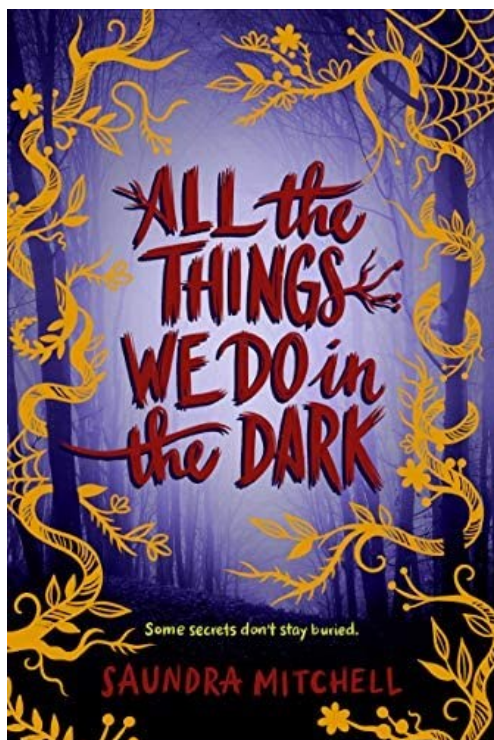
If yes, where? Name and date of publication: Audience reviews 2020, 2019

Complainant's Signature

Julia Thomas

Date October 9, 2023

# ALL THE THINGS WE DO IN THE DARK



*Young Adult*

**By Sandra Mitchell**

ISBN: 978-0-06-285259-5

## CONTENT WARNING

You are about to access material that may contain content of an ADULT nature. These files may include pictures and materials that some viewers may find offensive. If you are under the age of 18, or if such material offends you or if it is illegal for you to view these materials, please exit now.

## Book Summary:

A teenage girl attempts to have a normal life after having been raped as a child.

## Summary of Concerns:

This book contains mild/infrequent profanity; sexual activities; alternate sexualities; and suicide references.

**3**  
/5

**Minor Restricted**  
BookLooks Review Rating

Page	Content
i	This novel discusses sexual assault and sexual violence, and contains depictions of non-sexual violence and PTSD that may be triggering to survivors.
2	He had a razor blade finger. He just traced it down my cheek and told me to go home.
4	Also, I'm saying it because I think I have a responsibility: I had a "good" rape. The kind where I was young enough that it was definitely not my fault. I was not sexy enough for people to think I might have secretly wanted it.
5	There's no world, no planet, on which a nine-year-old should learn about sex and syphilis in an emergency room while an intern glues her face back together.
7	My friend Syd, short for Sydney, thinks virginity is stages: mouth virginity, hand virginity- even boyginity and girlginity.
48	(...Did you hear about the girl with the scar? Yeah, she offed herself. I guess she never got over it. Should we do something? Let's do candles and a GoFundMe for suicide stuff or...the other thing. You know, the other thing.)
96	Rivers spill down my spine and split across my breasts. ...My hands drift on soap currents, shaping the weight of my breasts, straying between my soft thighs. The little ache there throbs, but I pass by.
97	The right water is hard to find. I gave up a while ago. I don't like my fingers because I concentrate too hard and rub too hard to get nowhere. But the magic of an allowance, the existence of Visa gift cards, and the open road of the internet mean I don't have to use my hands. Turning out my light, I slide into bed, still wrapped in the towel. Then I dig between the mattress and box spring until I find my familiar friend. Mine is boring compared to some of the crazy things that come up on Amazon when you type vibrator into the search engine. There are no beads or pearls or colors or natural replications here: it's just a slim white tube with a twist base on it. It's quiet, like prayer; even quieter beneath my covers and towel. Only on the outside, the shaft pressed against flesh and bone, it's tip infiltrates dark curls and parts lips to find my clitoris. When I find the spot, my feet twist and curve. One heel digs into the mattress like an anchor.
98	People freaking joke about good-touch/bad-touch, and it's not funny. Good-touch dissolves into old hands- dirty hands- bad hands everywhere; rancid air I've already breathed; hot, swollen summer moments I never want back.
135	"You've made out with people and hooked up and done stuff, and I..."
165	When I kiss her, our lips cling together. They're not tentative or afraid- they long to hold on to the soft, silken glow between us. Her lips seek when I falter. They're plush and they invite me in. She reaches me with a taste how to follow. I've never done this before. Every flicker is terrifying and exhilarating; it's the first leap off the high dive and cutting flawlessly into the water. Twisting my hands in her shirt, my knuckles rasp against forbidden skin. Hailey unfurls against me. When she twines her arms around me, her blunt nails skate the length of my spine. They brush aside the hem of my shirt and whisper at the small of my back. It's alchemy, drinking something that makes us grow and

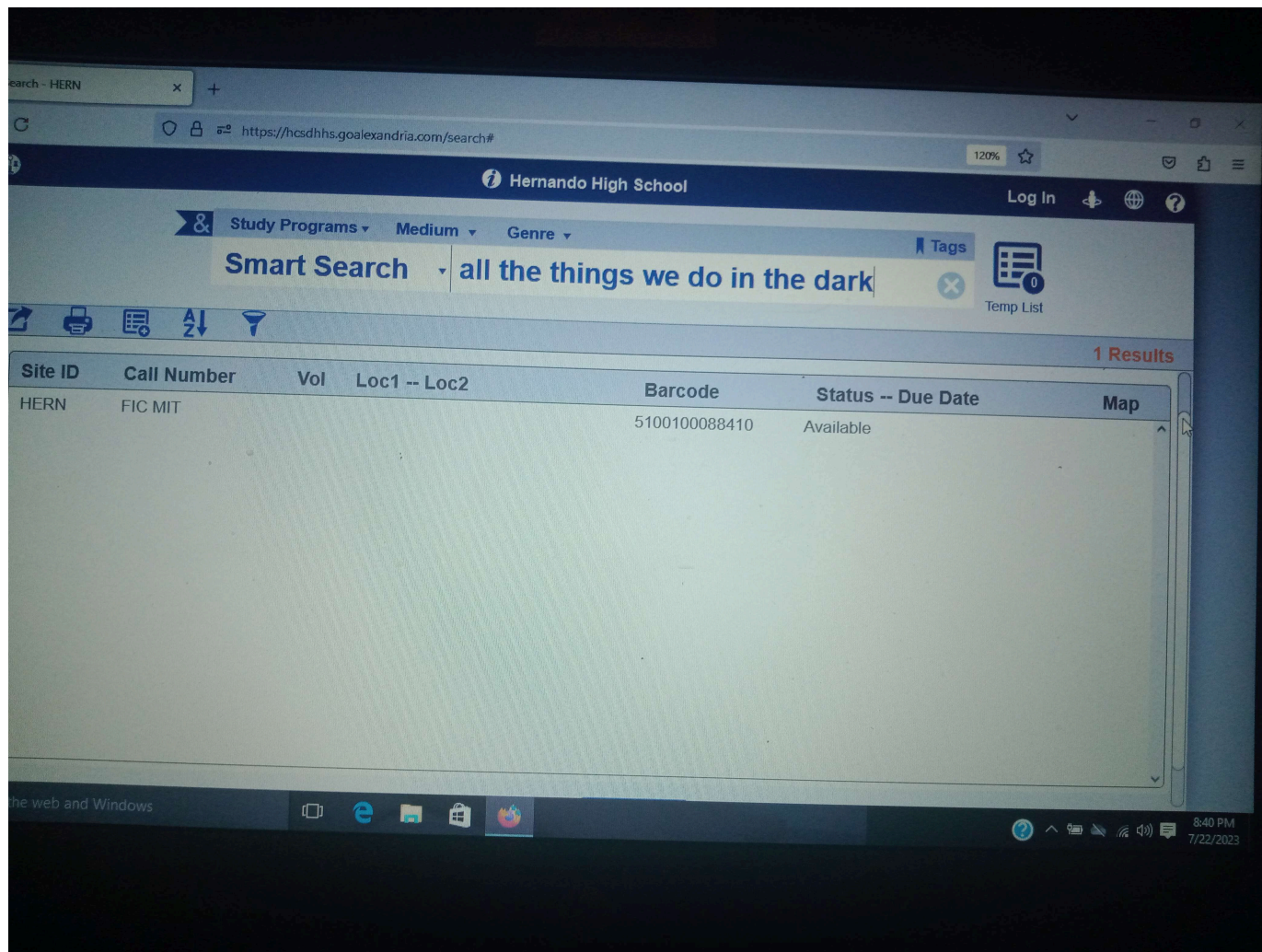
Page	Content
	<p>grow, fill up the room and spill out of it, into the universe.</p> <p>It's so much, too much, and we break away at the same time. I burrow against her; she holds me tighter.</p> <p>"Hi," I say.</p> <p>I feel her smile on my skin.</p>
166	<p>Lying to myself, like it's just going to be sleeping; it's not. But it's also not sex. Just kissing, just close, just skin-on-skin with clothes between, just breath hot on my lips and hands heavy on my hips.</p> <p>...I feel like I'm inside her skin or she's inside mine. Sweat springs up between my breasts and along my spine.</p>
167	<p>She traces the lines of the elephant- she's on forbidden skin and it makes me shiver.</p> <p>...When Hailey raises her eyes to mine again, she murmurs, "I've never had an illicit sleepover before."</p>
172	<p>Her stunted fingers close over mine. She forces my pinkie inside and leans in.</p>
175	<p>It's a constant reminder that I kissed the girl, and the girl kissed me.</p>
184	<p>Or maybe the dust runs out of her manic dream state, and she commits glorious, meaningful suicide.</p>
193	<p>DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN I TOLD YOU ABOUT THE GUY who followed me home after? How he insisted on talking to my mom? How he told her what he saw, and the next thing I remember after that is Police-ER-Rape Kits-Superglue?</p> <p>I hate him.</p> <p>More than I hate the guy who raped me.</p>
194	<p>Why were out that late/on that side of town/drinking/toking/hitchhiking/smoking/hooking up with somebody you met online?</p>
210	<p>Never had sex (?technically? Girlginity intact, boyginity uh...?)</p>
234	<p>Hailey catches me up in a brand-new kiss. On first taste, it's sweet, her lips feathering against mine Then it ignites. Hunger burns on the tip of my tongue. Our breath falls hard and fast and in time.</p> <p>We're breathing each other, devouring each other. The windows slowly rise with a haze. Releasing my seat belt, I slide back against the door when Hailey washes over me.</p> <p>Her heat, her weight, erase everything. I'm not numb; I'm alive in a whole new way. A ceaseless, sensual way that makes it easy to wrap my arms around her. The front seats are narrow, so we have to hold on. We have to twist together—duck and dodge and slide back in for another deep taste.</p> <p>This time, we fit together perfectly. Hailey's hands fall in the right places, my skin rising in chills of delight in their wake. When I venture beneath the hem of her sweater, I dip fingers beneath her waistband, stroking the dimples at the base of her spine. She is creamy; her kiss swirls in me like I'm coffee, around and around until she's mine and I'm hers and there's no way to separate us.</p> <p>... Hailey's lips, blushed and full, those are what's important. When she breaks away, I chase her, begging for another taste, pleading for one, getting one. Her hair escapes its elastic and falls all around us. Each strand leaves a mark on me.</p>

Page	Content
	<p>With a shake of her head to get it out of the way, she presses me back again. . I love that we're in the middle of nowhere. That we're in a car, like it's 1956 and Lovers' Lane is a thing. That we're right on the edge of one country and could tip over into another with ease.</p> <p>She moves, and it's delicious. When she strokes my face, the muscles in her back ripple all the way down. Chasing that wave, I rasp my nails against her spine and savor the shiver that rolls through her. The phone buzzes again, and Hailey murmurs, right on my lips, "Should you get that?"</p> <p>When I reply, my tongue flickers against the part of her lips. "No, it's fine." "Are you sure?" she asks.</p> <p>This time, I dip more than my fingertips beneath the band of her leggings. She makes a soft sound, and I pull her tighter against me. I want to fit all our curves and edges together, seamlessly. My lips feel heavy, honeyed, and I kiss her chin, her cheek, the corner of her mouth. "So sure."</p>
240	While I was making out with Hailey at the edge of the world, my mother was sitting home in the dark writing a new covenant for our house.
255	<p>This is a cop's house! This is a killer's house! What do cops and killers have in common?!</p> <p>Gun. He has a gun.</p>

Profanity	Count
Ass	1
Bitch	2
Dick	1

## Universal Book Content (UBC) Rating

0	1	2	3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mild Non-Explicit Violence</li> <li>No Nudity</li> <li>No Profanity</li> <li>No References to Sexual Activities</li> <li>No Drug or Alcohol Use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mild Non-Explicit Violence</li> <li>Non-Sexual Nudity</li> <li>No Profanity</li> <li>No References to Sexual Activities</li> <li>Mentioning of Drug or Alcohol Use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderate Violence</li> <li>Non-Sexual Nudity</li> <li>Moderate Profanity</li> <li>Inexplicit Sexual Activities</li> <li>Drug or Alcohol Use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explicit Violence</li> <li>Sexual Nudity</li> <li>Explicit or Frequent Use of Profanity</li> <li>Sexual Activities <small>No penetration, cunnilingus, fellatio, or ejaculation</small></li> <li>Drug or Alcohol Abuse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aberrant Violence</li> <li>Explicit Sexual Activities <small>Ejaculation and Sexual Penetration (oral, anal, vaginal, fingering)</small></li> <li>Explicit or Frequent use of Profanity</li> <li>Aberrant Drug or Alcohol Abuse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explicit References to Aberrant Sexual Activities</li> </ul>
Appropriate for all audiences	Might have minor issues for young readers	Suggested minimum younger teen	Suggested minimum older teen	Definitely adult only content	Might be arrested for reading at school board meetings



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Hernando High School

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Smart Search all the things we do in the dark

Temp List

1 Results

FIC MIT

All the things we do in the dark

Mitchell, Sandra,

Text-unmediated-volume ([2019])

Sandra Mitchell.

HarperTeen, an imprint of HarperCollins Publis...

293 pages ;22 cm

9780062852595

Teenage girls

Rape victims

Post-traumatic stress disorder

Secrecy

"Something happened to Ava. The curving scar on her face is proof. Ava would rather keep that something hidden--buried deep in her heart and her soul. But in the woods on the outskirts of town, the traces of someone else's secrets lie frozen, awaiting Ava's discovery--and what Ava finds threatens to topple the carefully constructed wall of normalcy that she's spent years building around her. Secrets leave scars. But when the secret in question is not your own--do you ignore the truth and walk away? Or do you uncover it from its shallow grave and let it reopen old wounds--wounds that have finally begun to heal"--Provided by the publisher.

Awards Note: A Junior Library Guild selection

8:40 PM 7/22/2023