

# Faking Normal PDF (Limited Copy)

Courtney C. Stevens



More Free Book



Scan to Download

## **Faking Normal Summary**

Unlikely friendships uncover hidden truths and heal hidden wounds.

Written by New York Central Park Page Turners Books Club

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download

## About the book

In "Faking Normal" by Courtney C. Stevens, readers are introduced to Alexi Littrell, a teenager carrying the heavy burden of a traumatic secret from a summer that changed her life. To cope with her pain, she retreats into the shadows, often seeking solace in the dark confines of her closet and turning to self-harm as a means of escape. The narrative vividly explores the struggles of mental health, trauma, and the complexities of adolescence.

The arrival of Bodee Lennox, the new boy next door who carries a mysterious air about him, marks a pivotal moment for Alexi. Known affectionately as "the Kool-Aid Kid" due to his vibrant presence and unique perspective on life, Bodee himself carries deep emotional scars, having faced his own share of hardship. Their unexpected friendship serves as a lifeline, bringing warmth and understanding into each other's lives.

As their bond deepens, Alexi and Bodee support one another on their journeys toward healing. Bodee's capacity for empathy encourages Alexi to confront her suppressed truth instead of hiding from it, while Alexi inspires Bodee to reveal his own story and the pain he harbors. Together, they navigate the murky waters of their respective traumas, fostering an atmosphere where vulnerability is met with acceptance. Ultimately, their friendship becomes a powerful catalyst for change, enabling both to reclaim agency over their lives and confront the ghosts of their pasts with newfound

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download

strength and resilience.

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download

## About the author

In this collection of poignant chapters, we delve into the life and experiences of Courtney "Court" Stevens, a multifaceted individual hailing from the vibrant town of Bandana, Kentucky. Throughout her journey, Court exemplifies creativity and resilience, balancing her roles in academia, community service, and storytelling with her love for farming.

Starting with her professional life, Court shines as an adjunct professor, where she inspires students with her insights and passion for learning. Her role as a youth minister reflects her commitment to guiding young minds and helping them navigate the complexities of growing up. Additionally, her time as an Olympic torchbearer symbolizes her community spirit and the importance of embracing one's unique journey.

Court's literary career is equally impressive. By night, she immerses herself in crafting coming-of-age narratives that resonate with readers, revealing her knack for capturing the essence of truth in fiction. Her work is a reflection of her personal experiences and the lessons learned throughout her life, making her stories feel relatable and authentic.

Daytime sees Court in the role of community outreach manager for the Warren County Public Library, where her dedication to promoting literacy and connecting people with the joy of reading shines through. This position

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download

not only allows her to engage with the community but also fuels her passion for storytelling and education.

In her free time, Court finds solace and joy at her hobby farm, Fable Stables. Here, she tends to an endearing menagerie of animals, including dogs, goats, chickens, and babydoll sheep. This pastoral escape offers her a chance to unwind and connect with nature, providing a perfect balance to her busy life and allowing her imagination to flourish.

Through each chapter, we witness Court's evolution as a creator and a community member. Her diverse experiences and passion for making a difference weave together a rich tapestry that showcases her as an inspiring figure in the lives of those around her. Whether through teaching, storytelling, or her nurturing of farm life, Courtney Stevens embodies the spirit of creativity, service, and authenticity.

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download

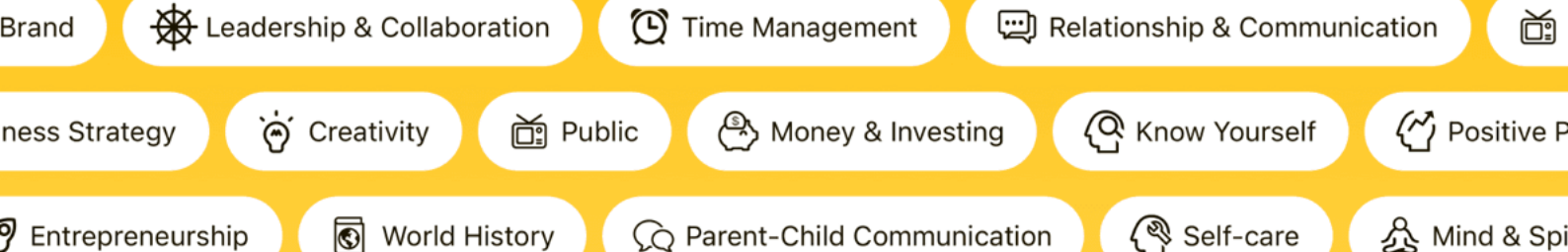




# Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock **1000+** Titles, **80+** Topics

New titles added every week



## Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey



# Summary Content List

Chapter 1:

Chapter 2:

Chapter 3:

Chapter 4:

Chapter 5:

Chapter 6:

Chapter 7:

Chapter 8:

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download



# Chapter 1 Summary:

## Chapter 1 Summary

In the opening chapter, we are introduced to Bodee Lennox, who embarks on a thirteen-minute walk to the Clip-N-Save parking lot, a location steeped in personal significance. It is here, outside the Army Recruitment Center, that Bodee finds himself reflecting on his troubled life. His older brother, Ben, enlisted at this very spot, leaving Bodee to navigate their chaotic home environment, dominated by their abusive father, Charles Lennox. The shadow of domestic violence looms large, shaping Bodee's experiences and ambitions.

While waiting on a bench, Bodee meets Lieutenant Williams, an approachable army recruiter who attempts to engage him in conversation about enlistment. Bodee grapples with conflicting emotions; he longs for an escape from his pain, yet feels weighed down by his family obligations and the limitations they impose. The lieutenant's inquiries about Bodee's interest in the army highlight Bodee's internal struggle—though the allure of military life represents freedom, he believes aspirations are not a luxury he can afford, especially in light of his mother's suffering from their father's violence.



As the dialogue unfolds, themes of yearning for liberation, loyalty to family, and the scars of abuse emerge. Bodee dreams of breaking free from the cycle of pain and hopelessness that defines his existence, yet he feels firmly anchored to both his troubled upbringing and the responsibilities that accompany it. Despite Lieutenant Williams' encouragement, Bodee ultimately dismisses the prospect of enlistment, symbolically changing benches to illustrate his reluctance to confront these deep-seated issues. This act signifies his ongoing struggle to escape the pain that has long shaped his identity, highlighting a poignant quest for direction and hope amidst turmoil.

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download

## Chapter 2 Summary:

In Chapter 2 of "Faking Normal," we delve into the life of Bodee Lennox, who finds refuge on the benches of his small-town bus station following a harrowing night. The bus station, with its blend of familiar scents and the comings and goings of travelers, becomes a sanctuary for Bodee, who feels trapped in his current circumstances. He often watches as passengers leave for new adventures, feeling both a sense of longing and envy.

Amidst this backdrop, Bodee encounters Gerry, a spirited girl with striking green hair, who tumbles off a bus and captures his attention. Their initial interaction is light and warm; Bodee instinctively rushes to help her, and they quickly strike up a conversation. Gerry's lively demeanor and infectious laughter draw him out of his shell and ignite his sense of adventure. She playfully encourages him to break free from his usual shyness, inviting him to join her on an exciting journey.

Despite his reticent nature, this meeting offers Bodee a glimmer of hope. He musters the courage to buy Gerry a Mountain Dew, which becomes a symbol of their budding friendship and Bodee's desire to emerge from his silence. The conversation reveals shared connections, including their common last name, Lennox, highlighting the bond they form despite their different personalities.



The chapter reaches a pivotal moment when Gerry shares her plan to travel to Panama City, sparking something within Bodee. For the first time, he contemplates the possibility of breaking away from his constraints and taking a leap of faith by purchasing a ticket for himself. This encounter not only underscores the themes of escape and connection but also illuminates Bodee's internal struggle between fear and the yearning for change. With Gerry's encouragement, he stands at a crossroads that could redefine his path forward, marking a significant turning point in his journey.

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download

## Chapter 3 Summary:

In Chapter 3 of "Faking Normal," Bodee takes a pivotal journey on a bus to Huntsville, Alabama, armed with a round-trip ticket that symbolizes both his desire for escape and the guilt about his father's potential disapproval. As he contemplates his decision, the weight of his home life—a source of physical abuse from his dad—lingers heavily on his mind.

At the bus station, Bodee encounters Gerry, a vibrant and spontaneous girl whose eccentric personality captures his attention. Their initial interactions are marked by lively banter, highlighting their contrasting backgrounds: while Bodee is cautious and introspective, Gerry embodies a carefree spirit. During their ride, Bodee opens up about his struggles, revealing the abuse he has suffered, a significant moment in his character arc that underscores his need for connection and understanding.

Gerry reciprocates by sharing her own poignant story—she is traveling to honor the memory of her late girlfriend, fulfilling a dream they had together. Their conversation flows seamlessly between humor and heartfelt vulnerability, illustrating the deepening bond that forms as they divulge their personal histories. This exchange not only sheds light on their individual battles but also enriches the overarching themes of the narrative: the search for connection, the desire to escape painful realities, and the challenge of confronting one's past.



The chapter culminates in a reflective moment when Bodee muses about the nature of peace and its inaccessibility in his life. Gerry's playful demeanor encourages him to rethink his perspectives, suggesting that their unexpected friendship is a catalyst for growth and self-discovery. Through their time together, both Bodee and Gerry begin to navigate their inner turmoil, illuminating a path toward healing and hope for the future.

**More Free Book**



Scan to Download

# Chapter 4:

## Chapter 4 Summary

In this chapter, we delve into the evolving friendship between Bodee and Gerry during a bus trip, where they engage in a poignant creative exercise using postcards. Gerry suggests they write to someone who might need encouragement, but Bodee initially struggles to think of anyone, including his estranged brother, Ben, and memories of his late girlfriend. Gerry, however, with her vibrant and encouraging nature, believes that there is always someone deserving of a message, pushing Bodee beyond his reticence.

Choosing a postcard featuring adorable puppies, Bodee begins to interact with Gerry in a light-hearted manner. Their dynamic fosters a safe space for Bodee to learn about Gerry's own backstory, revealing her past love for Lewis, who has also passed away. This exchange illuminates the shared themes of love and loss, highlighting their individual battles with grief and the need for connection.

As Gerry prompts Bodee to confront his issues with expressing himself, they engage in a candid conversation that touches on insecurities and the desire for genuine friendship. Inspired by Gerry's encouragement, Bodee steps





outside his comfort zone and impulsively decides to dye his hair Berry Blue in the cramped, makeshift bathroom of the bus, symbolizing his willingness to embrace change and self-expression.

This playful yet meaningful act strengthens their bond, allowing Bodee to

## **Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio**

**Free Trial with Bookey**





# Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



## 30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



## Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



## Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



## And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



## Chapter 5 Summary:

In Chapter 5, the vibrant and quirky character of Gerry takes the spotlight as she embarks on a playful yet meaningful task: dyeing Bodee's hair in an unconventional blend of Berry Blue dye, water, and conditioner. This colorful activity unfolds within the confines of a bathroom stall, illustrating a carefree spirit that soon reveals deeper emotional layers.

As Gerry meticulously applies the dye to Bodee's hair, their lighthearted banter transforms into a poignant conversation about their families. Bodee shares the complexities of his relationship with his mother, who grapples with her affection for his abusive father. This disclosure prompts Gerry to question the very essence of love, pushing both characters to explore its multifaceted nature, especially when tinged with pain.

The discussion takes a more serious turn when Bodee brings up his brother, Ben, whose decision to join the army has led to a rift within their family. Gerry, astute and compassionate, senses Bodee's suppressed anger regarding this family dynamic and encourages him to confront it. Their exchange becomes heated, illustrating the rawness of Bodee's emotions, leading him to momentarily lash out at Gerry. This act of frustration quickly gives way to remorse, underscoring the growing bond that is developing between them as they navigate each other's struggles.



Throughout their confiding, Gerry subtly reveals her own challenges, indicating a sense of urgency that led her to leave her previous relationship with her girlfriend, Lewis. This parallel between their experiences further emphasizes Bodee's steadfast determination to protect his mother and stay with his family, even amidst turmoil.

The chapter reaches a blend of humor and intensity when an unexpected knock at the bathroom door interrupts their deep conversation, reminding them of the outside world and its pressures. Yet, this moment also reinforces the connection they have forged, illustrating that through humor and shared heartache, Gerry and Bodee are not only confronting their individual traumas but beginning to build a friendship anchored in trust and mutual understanding.

Overall, this chapter encapsulates themes of love, loyalty, and the intricate nature of familial relationships, establishing a poignant foundation for Gerry and Bodee's evolving friendship as they navigate their personal trials together.



# Chapter 6 Summary:

## Chapter 6 Summary

In this chapter of "Faking Normal," we explore the deepening bond between the narrator and Gerry, highlighting their growth from casual acquaintances to trusted friends. The chapter opens with the narrator in a moment of vulnerability, reflecting on societal norms during bus travel, particularly the pressures tied to appearance. Gerry, displaying a generous spirit, offers the narrator a flannel shirt she salvaged from Goodwill, symbolizing the burgeoning intimacy of their friendship.

As they spend time together, Gerry encourages the narrator to break free from inhibitions, playfully insisting they send a postcard to a character named Ben, illustrating her desire to foster self-exploration and adventure. The narrator wrestles with their sense of identity, particularly as they experiment with blue hair—a bold move that raises questions about whether this is a sign of lasting change or simply an ephemeral escape.

The tone shifts dramatically when they slip into a bathroom to rinse out the hair dye. In this private space, Gerry reveals her own scars, which represent her personal struggles—a metaphorical "dragon" that she carries. Their playful banter, peppered with jokes and light-heartedness, contrasts sharply



with the weight of their hidden pains. In a moment of vulnerability, the narrator shares a scar of their own, drawing connections between their experiences. This exchange creates a powerful atmosphere of understanding, acceptance, and healing, as both characters confront their pasts.

Gerry's vibrant personality shines brightly as she reassures the narrator, encouraging them to embrace their new look, proclaiming, "we just made sure your outside matches your inside." This phrase embodies the chapter's central theme of authenticity and the importance of being true to oneself, reinforcing the idea that friendship can inspire personal growth.

As they leave the bathroom, the narrator reflects on Gerry's insightful words regarding the complexities of emotions, leaving readers intrigued about how their friendship will unfold. The chapter accentuates the themes of self-identity, vulnerability, and the transformative power of friendship, setting the stage for the challenges both characters are destined to face as they navigate their journeys of self-discovery together.



## Chapter 7 Summary:

### Chapter 7 Summary

In this chapter, Bodee and Gerry embark on a poignant trip to Huntsville, deepening their silent bond as they navigate personal struggles and emerge into a world of shared experiences. As they travel, Bodee reflects on his turbulent home life, haunted by memories of his abusive father and the pain of his mother's suffering. A particularly traumatic incident resurfaces: he recalls the burden of stitching his mother's wounds after a violent outburst, an experience that encapsulates the heavy emotions tied to his family's toxicity. Despite this turmoil, a quiet resilience anchors Bodee as he wrestles with frustration over their dire circumstances while trying to support his mother.

Upon reaching Huntsville, the connection between Bodee and Gerry becomes palpable. In a tender moment, Gerry rests her head on Bodee's chest, signaling their growing intimacy before they choose to explore the local scene. They are drawn to an eclectic establishment called 45 Pizza, a distinctive blend of pizzeria and record store that offers them a whimsical escape. The vibrant atmosphere captivates them and sets the stage for blossoming camaraderie.



As Bodee and Gerry share pizza, they revel in the unique experience, discovering records and dancing together—a joyful expression of their emerging friendship. The dance serves as a metaphor for their deeper connection, where Gerry finds a fleeting moment of solace, recalling her deceased girlfriend, while Bodee ventures out of his comfort zone, standing by her during this vulnerable recollection.

Their interaction with the quirky Grandma Two-Glasses adds a layer of charm as they indulge in playful banter about music and crushes. This lighthearted dialogue indicates a burgeoning understanding between them. Through shared laughter and dreams, the chapter encapsulates themes of healing, connection, and the significance of shared moments against a backdrop of personal adversities. In a world marked by chaos, Bodee and Gerry's journey illustrates how fleeting moments of joy and companionship can provide solace and hope.





# Chapter 8:

## Chapter 8 Summary

In this deeply moving chapter, the protagonist grapples with the unpredictable nature of life, particularly how a seemingly routine day can devolve into a profound emotional experience. The narrative opens at her cherished bench in the park, where she unexpectedly encounters Lieutenant Williams, an army recruiter. This chance meeting serves as a catalyst for her to reconnect with an old friend, Gerry, who introduces some unexpected complexities.

As they sit together, an atmosphere of vulnerability envelops them, leading both to a shared outpouring of tears. It is during this moment that Gerry reveals her true identity as Lewis, a name steeped in personal sorrow. Lewis bravely shares her heartbreaking story of grief following the loss of her best friend, Geraldine. She describes her troubled home life, where affection has been overshadowed by the scars left from her mother's abuse. This revelation sheds light on Lewis's struggle to embrace her authentic self, helping the protagonist understand the depths of her friend's pain.

Their conversation weaves together memories of Geraldine, linking the two girls through a shared bond of grief. In a poignant gesture, Lewis presents a



stuffed bear given to her by Gerry's mother, representing their enduring connection. The scene balances moments of sorrow with the brightness of their quirky humor, illustrating how laughter can coexist with sadness.

As they prepare to part ways, a glimmer of hope emerges. Lewis offers the

## **Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio**

**Free Trial with Bookey**





★★★★★  
22k 5 star review

## Positive feedback

Sara Scholz

...tes after each book summary  
...understanding but also make the  
...and engaging. Bookey has  
...ding for me.

**Fantastic!!!**



I'm amazed by the variety of books and languages  
Bookey supports. It's not just an app, it's a gateway  
to global knowledge. Plus, earning points for charity  
is a big plus!

Masood El Toure

Fi



Ab  
bo  
to  
my

José Botín

...ding habit  
...o's design  
...ual growth

**Love it!**



Bookey offers me time to go through the  
important parts of a book. It also gives me enough  
idea whether or not I should purchase the whole  
book version or not! It is easy to use!

Wonnie Tappkx

**Time saver!**



Bookey is my go-to app for  
summaries are concise, ins  
curated. It's like having acc  
right at my fingertips!

**Awesome app!**



I love audiobooks but don't always have time to listen  
to the entire book! bookey allows me to get a summary  
of the highlights of the book I'm interested in!!! What a  
great concept !!!highly recommended!

Rahul Malviya

**Beautiful App**



This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with  
busy schedules. The summaries are spot  
on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh  
I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

Free Trial with Bookey

