



Photo by Lisa Burton

Katie Cotugno is a 2011 Pushcart Prize nominee whose work has appeared in *Mississippi Review*, *Appalachian Review*, *Iowa Review*, and *Argestes*, among other literary magazines, as well as on Nerve.com. Her first novel was *How to Love*. She lives in Boston with her husband, Tom.



Other books by Katie Cotugno

MOLLY BARLOW IS FACING ONE LONG, HOT SUMMER—99 DAYS—WITH THE BOY WHOSE HEART SHE BROKE AND THE BOY SHE BROKE IT FOR . . . HIS BROTHER.

"A COMPLICATED, COMPELLING SUMMER ROMANCE AND A WHOLE LOT OF KISSING MAKE THIS ONE TO STICK IN THE BEACH BAG."  
—BCCB

"A THOUGHT-PROVOKING STORY THAT EXPLORES THE POWERFUL BONDS THAT ARISE BETWEEN CHILDHOOD FRIENDS WHO GROW UP TO DISCOVER ROMANCE."  
—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

"A FASCINATING STORY OF ADOLESCENT LOVE AND BETRAYAL."  
—KIRKUS REVIEWS

99 Days

Katie Cotugno



# 99 Days

**Day 1:** JULIA DONNELLY EGGS MY HOUSE MY FIRST NIGHT BACK IN STAR LAKE, AND THAT'S HOW I KNOW EVERYONE STILL REMEMBERS EVERYTHING. SHE HAS EVERY RIGHT TO HATE ME, OF COURSE. I BROKE PATRICK DONNELLY'S HEART THE NIGHT EVERYTHING HAPPENED WITH HIS BROTHER, GABE. NOW I'M SERVING OUT MY SUMMER LIKE A JAIL SENTENCE: JUST NINETY-NINE DAYS TILL I CAN LEAVE FOR COLLEGE AND BE DONE.

**Day 4:** A NASTY NOTE ON MY WINDSHIELD MAKES IT CLEAR JULIA ISN'T FINISHED. I'M EXPECTING A FIGHT WHEN SOMEONE TAPS ME ON THE SHOULDER, BUT IT'S JUST GABE, HOME FROM COLLEGE AND ACTUALLY HAPPY TO SEE ME. "FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, MOLLY BARLOW," HE SAYS, "I'M REALLY GLAD YOU'RE BACK."

**Day 12:** GABE WOULDN'T QUIT TILL HE GOT ME TO COME TO THIS PARTY, AND I'M SURPRISED TO FIND I'M ACTUALLY HAVING FUN. I THINK HE'S ABOUT TO KISS ME—AND THAT'S WHEN I SEE PATRICK. MY PATRICK, WHO'S SUPPOSED TO BE CLEAR ACROSS THE COUNTRY. MY PATRICK, WHO'S NEVER GOING TO FORGIVE ME.

BALZER+BRAY

B+B