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I meant to mention this sooner, but St. Martin's Press put the first four chapters of *Cracked Up to Be* up on [their page](#) for the book. That's 45 pages! And it's a pdf file, so it looks pretty snazzy, too. Also, *Cracked Up to Be* is now available [on the Kindle](#). I secretly wonder if that has anything to do with the fact that I clicked the *Tell the Publisher I'd like to read this on the Kindle* button on Amazon once just to see what'd happened cough BUT EVEN SO, I think that is cool.

I don't have a Kindle, though. Sadness! I kind of want one. But not as much as I want a sweet, sweet pair of Ray-ban Wayfarers (by the way, I am pretty sure both of these things are alarmingly close in price). Do you suppose there are people out there who own Kindles *and* Ray-ban Wayfarers?

I bet there are.

I bet they are so happy in their souls.

So I'm 10,000 words into a new novel. I can't tell you how happy this makes me because when I'm not writing, I feel like I'm missing something important. Like my face. And I need that thing to emote at people with, you know?

Anyway, I'm *amped* for this book, not gonna lie. It "arrived" differently than the other books and it's all been very exciting to me. It is yet another gentle reminder that starting a new book is like starting a new relationship with someone... new. Uhm. Anyway, current relationship status: we are in the honeymoon stages. We are married and in love.

I CAN'T WAIT FOR OUR EVENTUAL DIVORCE AND DRAMATIC RECONCILIATION.

Speaking of dramatic reconciliations, do you think Jon and Kate will have one? That show distresses me, you guys. It has always distressed me, though. Every time I watched it I would get this horrible anxiety in my chest because I would try to imagine raising eight kids all relatively close in age and I would just freak out until I remembered I didn't have to and I'd change the channel and it was all good again.

But now I'm distressed in a different way. I feel like I am living with the weight of their hard times on my shoulders. Should we talk about this? The repercussions of Reality TV? Is Reality TV bad? Are we, the viewers, responsible on any level, for the degradation of Jon and Kate's marriage? Should I even be blogging about this? It somehow seems too personal.

And how can Reality TV be bad when it brings us pictures of JEFF PROBST STANDING IN THE RAIN?



In other news, I have been lucky enough to read some good books lately! You should read them too:

[Evermore](#) by Alyson Noel

[A Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey](#) by Jill Bolte Taylor

[The Spectacular Now](#) by Tim Tharp

[Overqualified](#) by Joey Comeau

The links will take you to my GoodReads reviews and you can get my full take on them there. If you have read any of them, I'd love to know what you thought! I've just begun [C.K. Kelly Martin's](#) latest, One Lonely, Degree. I've been waiting for that book FOREVER, just so you know. Imagine how happy my face was when I got the mail and it was there, right on the release date! C.K. has kindly agreed to another interview for the blog as well, which I'm really looking forward to.

And that is really all the news that is fit to print right now! I am going to stop typing this entry and continue working on Book 3.

I mean, just after I am done staring at this:



~What a dreamboat.~