

This month, I read "*Always and Forever Lara Jean*" by Jenny Han. Lara Jean just recently got back together with Peter, and it is going great. High school is coming to a close, and she and Peter already made a plan to go to college together. However, she doesn't get in but later she gets accepted to a faraway college. She is clueless about what she should do. She has to decide whether to go to her dream college or stay closer to Peter. Author Jenny Han illustrates the theme, that often new choices lead to leaving people behind.

To begin with, Lara Jean has to leave people behind with a new choice when Lara Jean makes a choice with college, she ends up having to leave Peter behind. Lara Jean and Peter designed a plan to go to UVA (University of Virginia) together and all her family knew she was going to get in. When UVA released the scores, she was denied and is now out of sorts. "Everything is ruined... Me coming home from Sunday night dinner, doing laundry on weekends with kitty, Peter walking me to class, studying all night at Clemons library. It's all gone now" (Han pg. 66). Lara Jean gets her application denied and is wondering what she will do with her life now. She has always planned to go with her boyfriend Peter to college and live out there fantasy. Yet, with this now-learned knowledge of her rejection, she will have to have a long-distance relationship with Peter and not be able to be with him for the rest of her school career. Her new choice makes her leave Peter.

Additionally, Lara Jean's new choice made her leave things behind when she had to say goodbye to her hometown. After Lara Jean's request gets rejected, she comprehends the sort of trouble she is in. She has always wanted to stay in her town for college to see her family, but getting denied by the college shows her that she will have to leave her town completely. "When I wake up in the morning, it's the first thing I think of. how I'm not going to UVA, how I don't even know where I'm going. my whole life I've never had to worry about that. I've always known where my place is, where I belong. Home." (Han pg. 73) Lara Jean grasps her situation and notices she never thought she would get rejected by the university she wanted to go to. She determines all of her options and ultimately realizes she will have to leave for a farther away college. In the process of this new choice, means splitting off from her hometown.

In conclusion, I would rate this book a 9/10 because the plot was very interesting. I love how the author showed Peter and Lara Jean's dedication to each other. However, the book wasn't a full ten because sometimes it got boring.