Behind Mel's Meltdown

Arrested for drunken driving, the ‘ashamed’ actor enters rehab and apologizes for spewing religious slurs
*FICION*

Here's another powerful blurring of the lines between young adult and mainstream fiction from Rosoff, the author of *How I Live Now*. After snatching his baby brother off a window sill as he's about to fall, 15-year-old David Case becomes obsessed with avoiding Fate. Renaming himself Justin, he strikes out on his own, falls in love with an “older” woman, makes his first real friend and witnesses death and betrayal. Though he pulls it together, he's seriously troubled, and Rosoff’s treatment of his mental problems is unsettlingly ambiguous. Parents who find the book riveting, despite its patches of talky philosophy, may want to think twice before handing it to sensitive teens.

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**Fun Facts**

1. Those songs that stick in your head? They’re called “ear worms.”
2. Monkeys like the sound of fingernails screeching on a blackboard and rock music equally.
3. Emotions triggered by music involve structures in the brain's primitive, reptilian regions.
4. Profits from Beatles hits helped their record company develop technology for MRI machines.
5. Americans spend more on music than on prescription drugs.

**OH, MY GOODNESS!**

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