



## The Next Thing on My List: A Novel

By Jill Smolinski

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“You’ll be hooked by this charming story. . . . Smolinski gives us a quick-witted heroine . . . with just the right amount of romance and a tad of suspense.”

—*Richmond Times-Dispatch*

After a car accident in which her passenger, Marissa, dies, June Parker finds herself in possession of a list Marissa has written: “20 Things to Do by My 25th Birthday.” The tasks range from inspiring (run a 5K) to daring (go braless) to near-impossible (change someone’s life).

To assuage her guilt, June races to achieve each goal herself before the deadline, learning more about her own life than she ever bargained for.

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## The Next Thing on My List: A Novel By Jill Smolinski Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #383862 in Books
- Brand: Smolinski, Jill
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- Binding: Paperback
- 304 pages

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Smolinski follows up her debut, *Flip-Flopped*, with an airy, hit and mostly miss novel about one rudderless woman's accidental journey of self-discovery. After a Weight Watchers meeting, narrator June Parker offers a ride home to newly svelte Marissa Jones, and the two hit it off until Marissa dies in a nasty one-car accident. When June runs into Marissa's hot brother at the cemetery six months after the crash, she makes a rash promise to carry out the dead girl's list of 20 things to do before she turned 25 (even though June is 34). The challenges that follow—running a 5K, kissing a stranger, "dare to go braless"—serve less to improve June's life than to highlight how unfortunate it is that she's taken up a stranger's goals instead of her own. Smolinski's Los Angeles is a well-executed set—June tilts at windmills as a writer for a ride-sharing nonprofit—but the most human characters in it are June's tyrannical and calculating boss and her secretly sensitive, underused brother. Though completing the list is a transformative experience for June, the leadup fizzles.

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From [Booklist](#)

June Parker's life is meandering along until a freak car accident leaves Marissa, her 24-year-old passenger, dead and June wracked with guilt. June discovers a list Marissa had been keeping of 25 things she wanted to do by the time she turned 25. After a run-in with Marissa's brother, June resolves to complete the list. Kissing a total stranger and throwing away her scale prove far easier than pitching an idea at work or changing someone's life. But June approaches the list with aplomb, daring to speak up about being passed over for a manager position, and becoming a Big Sister to a quiet, studious Latina teen named DeeDee. But when June uncovers a secret of DeeDee's, she realizes changing someone else's life might involve changing her own as well. Clever and winning, Smolinski's novel will have readers rooting for June as they eagerly turn the pages to keep up with her progress on the list. *Kristine Huntley*

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Review

"Fresh and fun to read . . . The details of [June's] life are set out with a deft, light touch."

—*Boston Globe*

"Clever and winning, Smolinski's novel will have readers rooting for June as they eagerly turn the pages to keep up with her progress on the list."

—*Booklist*

"Smolinski crafts a believable heroine, and her chipper carpe-diem message may have readers devising their own Top 20s. . . . Sweet."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Cheers for Jill Smolinski, who has transcended the chick lit category by giving us a heroine who really tries to make a difference in this world. What a concept! I loved this book- its humor and its humanity. You will, too."

—Jane Heller, author of *Some Nerve* and *Lucky Stars*

"Instantly engaging, original, and funny, Jill Smolinski's new novel charmed me from the first page. Put this on your list: you won't be sorry!"

– Isabel Rose, author of *The J.A.P. Chronicles*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **James Johnson:**

Book will be written, printed, or outlined for everything. You can learn everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As it is known to us that book is important thing to bring us around the world. Close to that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A guide *The Next Thing on My List: A Novel* will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel much more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think that open or reading a book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they can be thought like that? Have you seeking best book or ideal book with you?

#### **Stephen Thrush:**

As people who live in the modest era should be up-date about what going on or info even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era that is certainly always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to a person is you don't know which you should start with. This *The Next Thing on My List: A Novel* is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and need in this era.

#### **Sherry Holsey:**

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book is usually option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the reserve untitled *The Next Thing on My List: A Novel* can be fine book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

#### **William Kavanaugh:**

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