

CONTENTS UNDER PRESSURE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
ON SALE APRIL 13, 2004

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LUCY DOYLE IS FOURTEEN-YEARS-OLD, A FRESHMAN IN HIGH SCHOOL,
AND HAS NEVER BEEN KISSED. CAN IT GET ANY WORSE?

By Lara M. Zeises
Delacorte Press Prize Honor Winner for *Bringing Up the Bones*

Lucy Doyle thinks she is a loser. She has never had a boyfriend, or even been kissed—she's light years behind the rest of her friends. The girls in Lucy's group are dating guys that drive and are aspiring poets from New York City, while Lucy and her best friend Allison have slumber parties and talk about the boys they have crushes on. SO junior high. But things will take a surprising turn for Lucy, as award-winning author Lara M. Zeises proves in her latest novel **CONTENTS UNDER PRESSURE** (Delacorte Press Books for Young Readers / on sale April 13 / \$15.95).

Until recently, Lucy has been quite content with her life. She has a good family (although she could do without her little brother), and an older brother whom she adores. If she only had a boyfriend, life could probably be perfect. And then it happens. Lucy attracts the eye of Tobin, a cool junior who wants to give her rides to school. And what's even better is that he really likes her—and she feels the same way about him. She is ready to be kissed, and to maybe even do a bit more than that.

But is she *really* ready? Lucy's feelings change dramatically when her older brother Jack returns home from school with his girlfriend in tow. The two are moving in and are expecting a baby. And this unplanned pregnancy has turned Lucy's entire family upside down. Now, Lucy feels more pressure than ever to figure out just how far she is ready to take her own relationship, and how to deal with the brother that she always thought was perfect.

Lara's highly-praised first novel, *Bringing Up the Bones*, is now available in paperback from Laurel Leaf Books.

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By Lara M. Zeises

A Delacorte Press Books for Young Readers hardcover / on sale April 13, 2004
0-385-73047-0 / 256 pages / \$15.95 / \$23.95 Can. / Ages 12 up