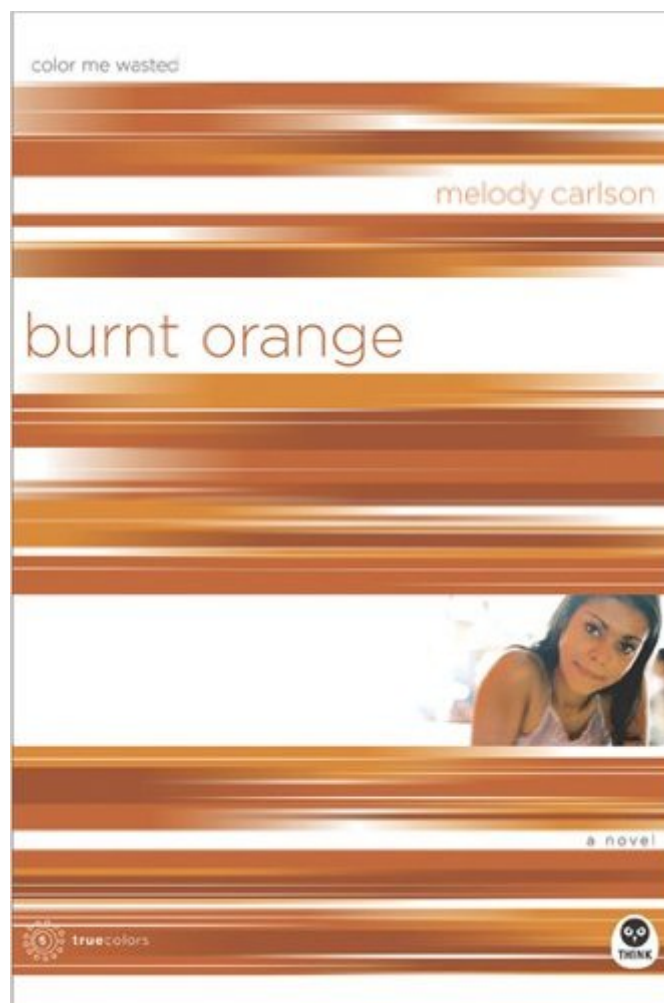


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# Burnt Orange: Color Me Wasted (TrueColors Series #5)



## Synopsis

Up until her senior year, Amber has been the model of perfection--just like her dad, Pastor Conrad, taught her to be. But when Claire Phillips invites her to more and more parties, Amber's little white lies about her drinking spark a raging wildfire that threatens to overtake her life. Will she be honest with herself and her friends before things really get out of control? This fifth book in the teen fiction series TrueColors looks at alcohol abuse, addiction, and temptation.

## Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Think (December 22, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1576835332

ISBN-13: 978-1576835333

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #931,896 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #137 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Drugs](#) #267 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Peer Pressure](#) #312 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Drugs & Alcohol Abuse](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

"Hello, my name is Amber Conrad," I say in my most serious voice, "and I'm an alcoholic." is the first and last sentence of the teen novel *Burnt Orange* by Melody Carson. Amber Conrad, a senior in high school, has always led a very religious and sheltered life due to the fact that she is a preacher's daughter. She is the perfect model of perfection to many people from her church. But what do they really know? She has never been to a true "high school party" in her life, until her senior year. Where she just has a few drinks to fit in. After that one party Claire Phillips, a popular girl in school, begins to try to be Amber's friend. A lot of people don't like Claire because they think she is an alcoholic, her step dad is rich, and she gets what she wants. As they get closer and closer and go to more parties, Amber's drinking habits begin to spin out of control. Amber gets a fake ID, goes to wild parties, and doesn't act like herself at all. At the same time she strays from her faithful life that has

always been dedicated to God. Simi, Amber's best friend since day one, begins to realize that Amber is changing and begins to get worried about her. Amber has never missed church and all of a sudden she is hardly ever there, so Simi knows something is up. She tells Amber to stop, and Amber insists that a few drinks every now and then don't hurt, and she assures her that she knows what she is doing. She also says she is hanging out with Claire because she thinks Claire needs help and needs God. Is Claire really the only person who needs God, or does Amber need him too? Finally after a lot of hangovers, rough nights, and driving drunk, Amber begins to realize she does have a drinking problem. She cuts back, and tries to get Claire to also. It doesn't work.

Eighteen year old Amber Conrad is the perfect pastor's daughter. Or so she thought she was, before popular and rich Claire Phillips befriended her and invited her to all the cool parties - which of course have alcohol involved. In an effort to cover up her new habit of social drinking, Amber starts lying to her parents. She even lies to the best friend she's had since middle school, Simi. Now, one fake ID and many little white lies later, she finds herself getting caught up in a dark web of alcohol abuse and addiction. Can Amber fess up and get some help before it's too late? Amber's best friend Simi is willing to help her through her addiction, even offering to join her at an alcoholic anonymous meeting, so she can get some counseling. Though it takes a heartbreaking event for a truly sobering wake-up call to occur, Simi's care for Amber is constant throughout the book. Claire abuses alcohol to keep herself numb. From the outside, she appears to have it all, looks, popularity and money, but inside she's desperate and hurting. This hurt causes her to make poor decisions, which leads to life-altering events happening, which not only affect her, but a multitude of people. Melody Carlson masterfully displays the effects that alcohol can have on a person's self-control. Although Amber repeatedly promises herself, and others, that she will stop her drinking, her self-control is nonexistent around alcohol. She lowers her guard, even driving under the influence of alcohol. *Burnt Orange* shows teen alcohol abuse as a serious issue. It not only can physically harm those who drink, leading to alcohol poisoning and liver failure, it can also have deadly consequences for others. Sadly, the events in *Burnt Orange* can and do actually happen.

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