



Only the Lonely (From the Files of Madison Finn Book 1)

By Laura Dower

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Summer ends too fast when you're dreading junior high

Twelve-year-old Madison Finn is allergic to change. Her two best friends are away at camp and Madison is not sure she's going to survive the summer, let alone the beginning of junior high. Good thing she has a new laptop, which she uses to write and store all of her thoughts on friendship, her parents' divorce, and her fear of being called a loser for not liking sushi!

At first, change seems like the worst thing ever, but with the support of her family, friends, and little pug, Phin, Madison realizes she can handle anything that comes her way.

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Only the Lonely (From the Files of Madison Finn Book 1) By Laura Dower Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The chatty debut installment of the *From the Files of Madison Finn* series introduces a high-strung and contemplative heroine who pronounces herself "allergic" to change. The summer before seventh grade, Madison is still reeling from her parents' divorce a year earlier. With her two best pals, Aimee and Egg, away at camp, she feels bored and lonely not to mention anxious about the impending start of junior high. When she becomes friends with a new girl in her neighborhood, Madison worries about juggling this relationship with her tried-and-true friendships, then agonizes about whether she still has as much in common with Aimee and Egg as before. The novel's title refers to one of the files that Madison keeps on her beloved laptop, on which she records her feelings, fears and fixations. The computer also gives rise to e-mails and chat room dialogue, faithfully recorded here ("evry one is @ a party except 4 me"), which supplement the often long-winded narrative ("Madison went into her super-special computer files. She accessed the files with a specially selected, super-special password which was so super-special that even she forgot it sometimes"). The issues are real enough and credibly handled, so that readers who identify with Madison's angst may well want to reach for the series' second book, *Boy, Oh Boy!*, due out the same month. Ages 8-12.

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From School Library Journal

Gr 4-6-Fluffy reading loaded with computer messages is the gimmick here for wired girls. Madison Finn is "allergic to change," and this summer her life is fraught with "flux." Instead of hanging out with her best friends, she goes with her mom to Brazil to scout a location for a nature documentary. When they return home, the 12-year-old's pals are in camp and her parents are getting a divorce. Bored, lonely, and filled with angst at the thought of entering seventh grade, she searches chat rooms for new friends only to find one in her neighborhood. (Fortunately, Madison is savvy enough not to exchange intimate information.) Then Egg and Aimee return from camp, and the beginning of seventh grade is not what Madison expected. Her new friend Fiona makes the mistake of connecting with Maddie's archenemies at school. The first in a projected series, this novel has no heavy messages to weigh down a light summer read.

Marilyn Payne Phillips, University City Public Library, MO

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 4-6. This first installment in a new series introduces spunky Madison Finn, a soon-to-be seventh-grader who is suffering through a lonely summer while her two best friends are away at camp. When new girl Fiona moves in around the block, Madison's loneliness is eased, but she soon begins to worry about the way the new friendship will affect her relationship with her two old friends. Madison has a long list of other worries, too: a first kiss, changes in her body, and starting at the big, new junior high. She contemplates her anxieties in *The Files of Madison Finn*, an online journal she has created on her new orange laptop. It's an effective device for letting the reader in on the innermost thoughts of this typical preteen girl. Although some serious topics are raised, they are handled mostly in a lighthearted way. The last few chapters describe the first hectic days of seventh grade and hint at a romance in Madison's future. With the second book already out and the third "coming soon," readers won't have to wait long to find out how Madison fares in seventh grade.

Lauren Peterson

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Karen Jude:

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or goal; it means that book has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a book. They can be reading whatever they acquire because their hobby is reading a book. What about the person who don't like reading a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book whenever they found difficult problem or maybe exercise. Well, probably you should have this Only the Lonely (From the Files of Madison Finn Book 1).

Michelle Dewees:

Do you really one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt when you find yourself in the book store? Aim to pick one book that you never know the inside because don't determine book by its protect may doesn't work the following is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside look likes. Maybe you answer could be Only the Lonely (From the Files of Madison Finn Book 1) why because the wonderful cover that make you consider in regards to the content will not disappoint you. The inside or content is definitely fantastic as the outside as well as cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly direct you to pick up this book.

Albert Chesson:

The book untitled Only the Lonely (From the Files of Madison Finn Book 1) contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains the woman idea with easy technique. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do certainly not worry, you can easy to read the item. The book was authored by famous author. The author gives you in the new time of literary works. You can read this book because you can keep reading your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book throughout anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can open up their official web-site as well as order it. Have a nice learn.

Charles Wagoner:

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