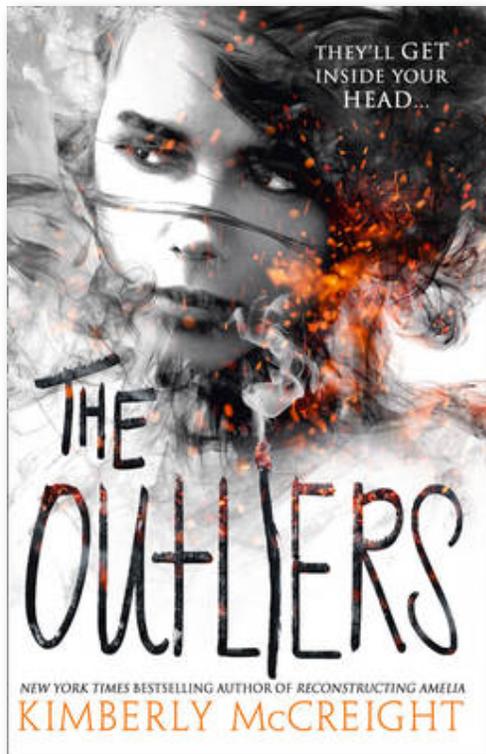


Helping you choose the best books for children

## LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **The Outliers** by Kimberly McCreight

 HarperCollins Publishers

**Below are the complete reviews, written by the LoveReading4kids members.**



**Natalie Hunter, age 14**

*'The Outliers' was amazing, once I'd got into it I kept it by my side at all times. The story is told from the perspective of the main character, Wylie. Her mother died in a freak accident a while ago so she hadn't really got out much. She and her best friend Cassie had an argument and hadn't spoken since then but then Cassie's boyfriend Jasper, who Wylie isn't a massive fan of, turns up at the door and she gets a message from Cassie asking for help. Suddenly they're out coming to find her, but it's not quite as simple as bringing her back once they have. They learn some truths that turn out to be not the truth at all and overall have a not so great time.*

***I love our main characters and their back stories especially how Wylie recounts moments from her past for us.*** Then there were those characters that I decided I loved and started shipping with the main character. Bad idea! Become fond of no-one. The plot twists were amazing and left me sitting there staring at the book in horror and don't get me started on the ending. I can't talk about it because of spoilers but let me warn you that there is a massive cliffhanger. I just wanted to pick up the next book and bury myself into it but that's sort of difficult when the first one isn't even published yet.

*So, if this book has caught your eye and you're wondering whether to read it or*

*not just go for it. I'm sure you'll enjoy it as much as I did. **I absolutely loved it!***

**Izzy Read, age 15**

***An interesting, emotional YA thriller that I finished in under 12 hours: I couldn't think of anything better!***

*The Outliers is a mysterious rescue-adventure that addressed grief, anxiety, eating disorders, addiction, and divorce. Almost all of characters were complex and three dimensional- exactly how I like them. They all pulled suitably at my heart strings, however none more than the misunderstood Cassie and grief-stricken Wylie. I do know you shouldn't judge a book by its cover, but the cover for The Outliers is stunning, even referencing the plot. I loved the flashback style of writing that left you questioning along with some of the eye-widening twists in the plot. Honestly some moments were so shocking that if I could only give you one piece of advice it would be to trust no one. However, I felt at times the plot was unfeasible and left me a little underwhelmed- I think it needed to flow better. SO, to sum it up it is an interesting, emotional YA thriller that I finished in under 12 hours and for that I give it 4 out of 5 stars.*

[www.fromcovertocoverr.tumblr.com](http://www.fromcovertocoverr.tumblr.com)

**Nichola Greig-Wills - Great Torrington School**

*This book was an easy read as it wasn't too long and although aimed more towards a teenage audience it still managed to capture me into the story. **It allows you to explore your own imagination and provokes thought about the storyline which is strangely believable!** It manages to keep a good element of suspense and I am really looking forward to the next book as I am keen to find out what happens.*

**Emma Hughes**

***I really enjoyed this book, it's an adventurous plot with lots of exciting twists and turns. A real page turner.***

**Edel Waugh**

*This YA book centres around a young female called Wylie. Wylie lives with her*

*dad and brother and her mother has recently died. When Wylie gets a message one day from her troubled friend Cassie it sets in motion a string of incidents that will change Wylie's life and the way she thought of it forever.*

***This book had it all... mysterious road trip, missing friend, mental illness and lies, which is why I read this in one sitting. I had to know what was going on and who the bad guys were or if it was a figment of a young girl's troubled imagination. Great read!***

### **Sophia Ufton**

***What a fantastic story, the plot was amazing! I loved reading this book and hope the author does more.***

*Imagine if you could see inside heads, your friends, neighbours even your enemies. Wylie has not seen his best friend Cassie in over a week now and her texts to him are cryptic and scary. What has happened to Cassie? Who has got her and what do they REALLY want with her? Maybe it will be just the beginning of something even bigger.....*

### **Amy Laws, age 15**

***Action packed and gripping- I flew through the pages of 'The Outliers'.***

*The unique idea and interesting plot lines behind 'The Outliers' helped to create an action packed and thrilling YA novel. This novel was full of emotions which made it easy to empathise with all of the characters which was one of the reasons why I enjoyed this book so much. Also, the plot was action packed with many different twists and turns which gave the story a good pace and kept me entertained throughout. The mystery element behind this book intrigued me and led to a very interesting and engaging plot. Overall, I would recommend this book to anyone who likes action packed books with a lot of tension.*

### **Charnell Vevers**

*'The Outliers' by Kimberly McCreight is the first book in a brand new YA mystery thriller series that will keep you guessing right up until its final page. If you're looking for a fast-paced thriller filled with twists and surprises then this is the book for you. Kimberly McCreight expertly keeps her readers in the dark throughout, but slowly revealing clues and details as the book goes along to help*

the reader to try and unravel the mystery. **As the first book in a new YA series this book will leave you desperate to get your hands on the sequel.**

**Aimee Sweet, age 14**

Cassie's best friend Wylie has gone missing. We don't know where she's gone or why, and neither does Cassie. All she has are a few texts from Wylie, but it's enough. But what Wylie doesn't know is that everyone has their secrets. And it's those secrets that have lead Cassie on this wild goose chase of a novel. It's unbelievable how fast paced 'The Outliers' is, which might be why I was practically scrambling to turn the pages. The novel follows a typical story, but as you delve deeper and get more and more drawn in you realise that this book is so much more. **McCreight has created a completely original, and I think truly incredible story that I'm sure will stay in my thoughts for a long while.** I love the concept of the Outliers- it got me thinking who could be a typical Outlier in our society, and how this could change our future- for the better or the worse? Who knows... you'll have to find out! And may I just note how beautiful the book looks; I cannot wait to hear what people think of it. **Beautifully crafted, 'The Outliers' is, without doubt, my 2016 favourite.**

<https://thesweetreview.wordpress.com>

**Lauren Coffman, age 16**

The Outliers is a story about two best friends, or rather "best friends", seeing as Cassie and Wylie have barely spoken since Wylie's mother died, leaving her anxiety-ridden and unable to leave the house. They haven't spoken at all since their last fight, but then Wylie gets a text from Cassie asking for help, followed by some more strange messages. What's more, Cassie's boyfriend turns up at Wylie's house, and Wylie begins to worry that something really bad is happening, something a lot worse than what she can gather from Cassie's cryptic messages and the minimal information that Cassie's boyfriend is willing to disclose. **Kimberly McCreight's writing in this book is amazing, and manages to successfully convey the atmosphere, tension and mystery throughout.** The characters and story were extremely well written, and I especially identified with the main character Wylie and the troubles she faces in life, which is an amazing thing to find in a dystopian thriller novel, as they are the kind of books in which you generally don't identify as much with

*characters. 'The Outliers' was so thrilling, and took many twists' and turns as the story went on, each more shocking than the one before. Due to this and the interesting concept I couldn't put it down. Many different themes and ideas are explored in the book, common ones like friendship, romance and adventure, as well as things like fear and anxiety, which are less common themes, that were central to the plot and handled very well. My only slight criticism of this book was that the many sudden plot twists left the ending quite lost, confused and therefore hard to follow, but I am sure this will be resolved and clarified in the next book in the trilogy which I am very excited to read. Overall this was a very gripping and thrilling book with a very interesting concept that I would highly recommend.*