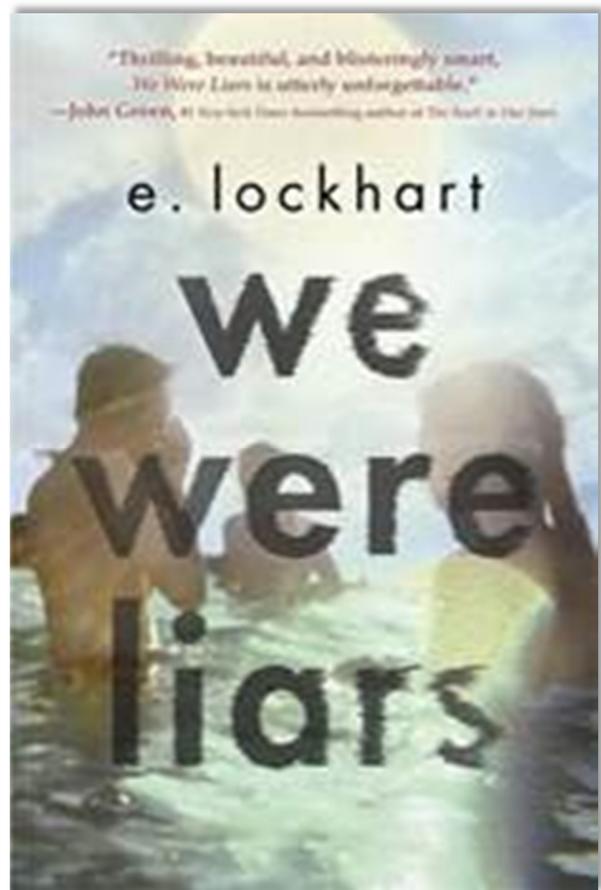


LoveReading Reader reviews of We Were Liars by E. Lockhart

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.

Jade Craddock

*From its powerful first words the reader is drawn into this beautiful, intricate, heartbreaking story through the author's vivid style, the enigmatic pull of the heroine, Cadence, and the mystery surrounding the narrative. The story keeps you hooked from the first to the last page as you learn about the Sinclair family, their summer holidays and the fateful events of summer fifteen when Cady's world is turned upside down. The portrait of the fissures and weaknesses within the seemingly perfect familial world and its undoing is powerfully rendered. The mystery is superbly hidden and the ending all the more poignant. **A wonderful YA novel that shocks and delights in equal measure. Something special and unique.***



Delilah Acworth

*'We were Liars' was **an incredible book full of mental and occasional physical anguish.** I found it quite hard to wrap my mind around the intricately laced plot sometimes but it became easier to understand once more and more memories started appearing to Cady about the terrible accident. I understand that perhaps 'We were Liars' was written in such a way that the reader faces the same predicament as the main character. **A tale full of hidden memories and tear stained faces.***

Sophia Ufton

Brilliant book! Couldn't put it down, finished it in one sitting.

Well what can I say, this book will indeed make you want to make sure you read it the first time correctly. It was a mystery. I loved this book so much.

Lauren Coffman

This book is interesting, exciting and the ending will stun almost every reader. It is a very clever book which I thoroughly enjoyed. I spent hours reading 'We Were Liars' and could not put it down.

'We Were Liars' is about a very rich family who spend their summers on their private island, while the rest of their year is spent miles apart. It centers mainly around the four children who call themselves the 'liars'. I loved this book so much and could not put it down. Though the start was slightly confusing once I got into it, it was a real page-turner. I really identified with the mischievous nature of the 'liars' and would have loved to have their fun summers on the island. The book was always exciting, fun and sad at times. However nothing could have prepared me for the ending. It was one which I believe only the odd reader will predict, completely unforeseeable but ingenious.

Clare Taylor

It keeps you reading because you want to know what happened to Cady and how she ended up having her accident in the sea and losing her memories. When you find out it's not what you expect at all.

A rich family, called the Sinclairs spend their summer holidays each year on an island owned by the grandad. All the cousins love it there and they get on really well and spend their time swimming and making icecream and hanging out. One summer when they are fifteen though something happens and Cady has an accident, banging her head on the rocks in the sea. The injury gives her bad migrains and she can't remember what happened. Two years later she goes back to the island with her mum and meets up with everyone again and slowly the memories come back and you find out what happened. The book has a good ending even if it's a bit confusing at first. It's very dramatic and not what you expect.

Rosa Boran

This was a really good book. It was so sad and happy at the same time and really blew me away. I really enjoyed it.

This book had me in tears by the end of it. It was beautifully written and perfect. It was so good and I couldn't believe how it all came together at the end. It's definitely one of the best books I've read this year and I really want to read more of Lockhart's books now.

Carla McGuigan, age 14 - St. Colm's High School Draperstown

'We Were Liars' was written by E. Lockhart and this is my first time reading one of her novels. 'We Were Liars' is about a girl named Cadence Sinclair Eastman. Cadence or "Cady" and her cousins spent every summer on her grandfather's island, only during summer 15 something terrible happened. When Cadence wakes up she finds that she can't remember what happened during summer 15, before or after the accident took place. Cadence suffers from migraines and has to endure sharp pains in her head.

*Slowly Cadence's memories start coming back but will she still want to remember what happened after she gains all of her memories again? **This book is by far one of the best novels I have ever read.** My favourite part of the novel is the ending, it was a complete and utter shock, a fantastic way to end the story and I hope there are many more books like 'We Were Liars'. It was an amazing read and I strongly recommend this novel to teenagers 13 and up. This novel had me hooked from the start and if you like a novel with a bit of mystery to it then I'm absolutely positive you will love this story.*

Aine Gray, age 14 - St. Colm's High School Draperstown

This novel is a story of suspense and sophistication, of love and romance, of family and friendships and the lives of wealthy teenagers. But with a terrible twist.

The main story line is about four friends and their wonderful summers together on their very own island. I liked the map at the beginning showing all the beautiful houses owned by the families. They call their gang "the liars" and as the story evolves we wonder what happened to cause such misery and sadness. What is truth and what are lies? This keeps us wondering throughout the whole story, right to the most amazing, astonishing ending ever. I just did not see it coming!!!

*I recommend this book to teenagers of any gender. **This book is unbelievable: it has to be one of the best books I have ever read.***

Sarah Gray, age 14 - St Colm's High School Draperstown

- *A beautiful and distinguished family*
- *An awesome setting on an idyllic island*
- *A damaged girl a warm-hearted boy*
- *Four lifelong friends whose friendship turns evil*

But what happened to cause such grief? What caused the accident? What is the mystery that changed their lives forever?

I thought this book was totally amazing with an ending that will haunt readers for a long time. It was so unexpected that I was breathless and shouted WHAT!!!!!!!!!!

I recommend this book to teenagers, both boys and girls. But do not tell anyone ending.

Ellie Frost

Cadence had an accident from which she is not yet fully recovered and about which, she can remember nothing, only what her mother has told her. She wants to spend the summer on her grandparents' private island with her cousins. The only problem is that the island is where the accident happened and Cadence has not been back since.

Once there, in the company of her cousins, particularly those around her own age, her memory gradually returns, so that, by the end of the summer, she is fully aware what happened.

This book makes you want to read on to find the answers to Cadence's problems, and also evokes a long teenage summer, being in love and just hanging around with family.

The publishers ask that you don't reveal the ending to people who haven't read the book, but I didn't find it a surprise and actually thought it was a bit predictable. That said, I still thought it was a good read.

Jenny Duffy, adult - <http://thebookstheartandme.wordpress.com>

I loved this book so much that once I had finished, I turned back to the start and read it over again. One of the most surprising books I have ever encountered, and also one of the best written.

'She made me act normal. Because I was. Because I could.'

Cadence Sinclair Eastman has been suffering migraines since her accident two years ago. She can't remember much of what happened during her fifteenth summer. But the Sinclairs do not suffer openly, and Cady must keep up appearances. Now, at last, she is returning to the island. Reunited with Johnny, Mirren and Gat, her fellow 'Liars', she is determined to find out the truth behind her accident. What she discovers is more devastating than she could ever have imagined...

*E. Lockhart's new book is an incredible read. It is completely gripping, and the truth revealed at the end really surprised me. The characters are strong, and the sense of mystery is compelling. Phrases are repeated throughout the book, to create a sense of layers as we come closer and closer to the truth. The language was beautiful; phrases like 'I was liquid loss' and 'There isn't a Scrabble word for how bad I feel' made Lockhart's writing a joy to read, as did the fairytales used throughout to tell the story of the aunts. She uses metaphors of blood and injury throughout to striking effect, to reflect not only Cady's pain, but to show how the family has been broken by greed and grief. **I loved this book so much that once I had finished, I turned back to the start and read it over again. One of the most surprising books I have ever encountered, and also one of the best written.***

Poppy Osborne, age 17

A truly unforgettable book that was gripping and enchanting.

Such skill went into writing this book and it clearly shows, beautiful imagery that kept me hooked. The ending was by far my favorite ending of any book totally unexpected and sad that I cried, for ages I might add. So simple yet so moving. Absolute recommendation from me, definitely a summer read.

Daisy Pennock, age 15

One of the best books I've ever read.

This book is absolutely amazing and will have you crying, laughing and keep

you with your mouth open in absolute shock. The less you know about the story; the better it is so all I can say is READ READ READ!

Alice D'Angelo, age 15

'We were liars' takes the reader on the journey of Cadence Sinclair Eastman as she tries to piece together her memories of a forgotten summer. Something terrible happened to Cady that summer but she doesn't know what, in fact she can remember barely anything about that summer. All she can do is ask questions, again and again. At first she thought her family was lying to her, or avoiding the truth but after a summer of attempting a fresh start, Cady starts to realise that maybe only she knows everything. Instead, as she tries to piece together fragments of memories, the only thing stopping her is herself. This leads her to the question; what could be so awful that she is hiding it from herself?

This story is far from predictable; with added twists that will make you gasp out loud. *At the beginning of the book, everything seemed clear and set out- a metaphor for Cady's seemingly perfect family that meet every summer on Beechwood Island. That is until she dug deeper into her memories and discovered what life was really like on the Island. Cady learns a lot about herself, but will she ever unravel the whole truth of what happened that summer?*

Lola Bridgeman, age 17

Receiving high praise from John Green himself, I don't doubt this will be the book of the summer for Y.A.

Comparisons to 'Gatsby' are inevitable, but this story of priveleged youngsters who spend each summer on an isolated island belonging to the family patriarch will leave you breathless. It takes the concept of unreliable narrator and turns it on its' head. By turns memoir, family history and voyage to discover what happened the summer protagonist Cady lost her memory, this is a 'stop everything till you finish' read.

Carla McGuigan, age 14

St. Colm's High School Draperstown

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*I recommend this book to teenagers of any gender. **This book is unbelievable: it has to be one of the best books I have ever read.***

Ella Grabsky, age 14

‘We Were Liars’ was one of those wonderful rare books that you can't find on every bookstore shelf.

‘We Were Liars’ was a great book. It was a story shrouded in mystery and questions. Told through the eyes of Cadence Sinclair, ‘We Were Liars’ was cleverly written. The book is set in modern times, however, you wouldn't realise this by the author's choice of setting for most of the book. The novel takes place one summer on an island owned by the grandparent's of Cadence. The story is told during one summer on the island, however, it is the memories from previous summers that help Candence piece together the mystery of what happened the summer she had her accident and lost her memory. Throughout the novel we are given clues to what must have happened but they are very smart and hard to spot. When the ending is revealed, you want to just sit there and think over what has just been revealed to the reader.

This book is thoughtful, full of suspense and yet also a bit sad. I recommend this book to anyone who wants to read something a little different and new. I thoroughly enjoyed ‘We Were Liars’.

Emily Frizell

It was fantastic; the twist at the end is phenomenal and marks the book as one of the best YA reads that's been out in a while.