



# How to Meet Boys

*Catherine Clark*

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## **How to Meet Boys** Catherine Clark

Find out what happens when you fall for your best friend's worst enemy in this timeless and hilarious story of a forbidden first love and forever friendship.

Lucy can't wait to spend the summer at the lake with her best friend, Mikayla. But when Jackson, the boy she's been avoiding ever since he rejected her, reappears in her life, Lucy wonders if this summer to remember is one she'd rather forget.

Mikayla's never had much luck talking to boys, but when she (literally) runs into the cutest guy she's ever seen, and sparks fly, she thinks things might be looking up...until she realizes the adorable stranger is the same boy who broke her best friend's heart.

As things begin to heat up between Mikayla and the one guy she should avoid, will Lucy be able to keep her cool or will the girls' perfect summer turn into one hot mess?

Catherine Clark, the author of beach-read favorites *Maine Squeeze* and *Love and Other Things I'm Bad At*, has once again crafted a hilarious and spot-on portrayal of what it's really like to be a teenager. Readers will love this irreverent coming-of-age story...and will be breathlessly turning the pages to find out what happens next.

## **How to Meet Boys Details**

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## From Reader Review How to Meet Boys for online ebook

### Rylee Bartel says

Personal Response: I thought this book was really good. It had two main characters that kept going back and forth between chapters, but I understood everything. I also never wanted to put it down. It always left me thinking about what each character would do between chapters.

Plot Summary: In this book there were a few things that happened. Most of the things that happened dealt with meeting boys. Lucy couldn't wait to go to Bridgeport and visit her grandparents, but plans for her summer changed after she ran into Jackson. She had been avoiding him after he rejected her a few years ago. Mikayla on the other hand met a guy after literally running into him. She was on a bike ride and didn't stop for a stop sign and got hit by a vehicle, she was ok, but turns out the hottest and cutest boy in Bridgeport was driving and hit her and he felt so bad for hitting her, but she rejected his apologies. Mikayla said that she hated boys, but that changed because she fell in love with the guy that hit her with his car. About half way through the book the girls are very pleased with their summer in Bridgeport. But that all changes again after Mikayla finds out that the adorable boy she is in love with is the same boy that broke up with her best friend, and put Lucy through a tough situation. To find out if Mikayla's love relationship will last sit down and read the book. Will Lucy loss her best friend over a boy or will the relationships be fine?

Characterization: This book has two main characters and they are: Mikayla and Lucy. Mikayla is Lucy's best friend and they decided to travel for the summer. They traveled to Bridgeport to visit Lucy's grandparents. Both girls have similar personalities, they both really like guys and when they meet one they want to learn more about them. They also both like to party and hang out with friends.

Recommendation: I recommend this book to teenage girls. The book is more about a girl's life than a boy's, and it has quite a bit of drama in it. I give this book a five out of five stars. I hope there are more books in the series.

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### Sophia Gutierrez says

This book is a great book and I really recommend you this this if you like books with romance. This book you go through the journey of love and friendship and enemies but you see it through different points of view. From Mikayla to Lucy's and you see how they feel about different situations. This is a great book but I don't like how it ends with Mikayla and Jackson talking about what will happened when summer is over and what will happen with their relationship when this happens because they live in different places and they are only together in the summer!?!? What will happen to them???

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### Jaime Arkin says

Lucy is looking forward to spending the summer with her best friend at the lake. Her only concern this summer is avoiding Jackson, the boy who rejected her... but when she arrives at her grandparents apple store she finds that he's the other kid they hired for the summer. This is a recipe for disaster. Right?

When Mikayla, Lucy's best friend has an almost accident on her bike, avoiding a car driven by a gorgeous stranger, she doesn't realize the crap storm her connection with this boy will cause. Because... as you

guessed it... it's none other than Jackson.

If you're looking for a summer romance, that's not entirely what this story is about. I know... I know... HOW TO MEET BOYS... there truly aren't that many boys. Instead ultimately what I found this story to be about was growing up, friendship and forgiveness. Lucy and Mikayla are the best of friends and it's apparent the connection they have. The story itself is told in alternating points of view and while that helps in connecting with the characters a bit better, I found that I wasn't really cheering for either one of these girls.

Lucy is a little bit overdramatic for me. While I understand her embarrassment once the entire story between her and Jackson is explained, I just felt it fell flat for me. Yes, I get the rumors were bad, but again it seemed too dramatic to be holding this much of a grudge that many years later. THEN where was Jackson in all of this. I mean they were friends before it happened, good friends and he's just going to let the rumors run rampant with the excuse that they were going to different schools ... It really didn't endear me to him.

Mikayla wasn't any better at making me a fan of her either. She came across as incredibly selfish and I get it... this is the first boy you have connected with but at what cost do you pursue it? A best friend? It seemed like she pushed Lucy out of her mind and continued to make excuses for herself in order to make her relationship with Jackson okay in her mind. For me, her realization was too little too late.

I also wasn't really sure what impact Ava was supposed to have on this story other than to act as a mediator and the person to tell these girls to pull their heads out of their asses.

How to Meet Boys explores relationships, both between girls and the boys they find themselves liking. It's definitely a light summer story with not a lot of substance to it. Definitely not a heavy read at all. If you're looking for a quick summer read that's fun and sweet, How to Meet Boys might be exactly what you need!

Thank you to Harpercollins and Edelweiss for the advance copy in exchange for my honest thoughts.

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### **Hanna says**

Very boring

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### **Andie says**

<http://toallthebooksivelovedbefore.wo...>

My review:

Well, I didn't know anything about this book so I didn't really know what to expect other than a summery romance novel.

And that's exactly what I got, and nothing more. How To Meet Boys was just a contemporary that felt a little dull, with its one – dimensional characters and its rather predictable plot.

I didn't really care about the protagonists, nor about what would happen to them because I just couldn't connect with Mikayla and Lucy. I don't know, I just found that they lacked depth and they didn't really seem real to me.

Also, I couldn't really connect with their problems since my best friend and I never had to deal with such a matter.

That's why, sadly, I didn't like this book at all and I don't really have much to say about it.

How to Meet Boys wasn't my cup of tea because I didn't like the subject matter and because the characters were dull, and there wasn't anything special about the plot.

Rating:

1.5 – 2 out of 5 stars

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### **Natalie says**

1.5 stars, and a major MEH for this one.

I thought this would be about Lucy confronting her nemesis from middle school and falling in love with him again. I thought they would have great chemistry, and I love the hate to love trope.

This book was nothing like what I thought it would be. I didn't know going in that there were two narrators (Lucy and her best friend Mikayla) and it's actually Mikayla who falls in (insta)love with Lucy's former crush from middle school. I didn't sense a connection between them at all.

The double narration did not work at all, because the two narrators sounded identical. And why was Ava there? What function did she serve? She went back and forth between the two of them attempting to meditate after the fight between the two girls.

The whole thing fell flat for me. The characters were one dimensional and juvenile. I wanted to like this one so much more than I ended up liking it.

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### **Clara says**

#### **Personal Response**

*How to Meet Boys* was a decent romance. It was easy to stay interested in, but due to the fact that the chapters were split by character it was not the easiest to follow. The two couples in the novel were both very realistic, which allowed for jealousy and parts that could take a quick turn easily. Altogether, I do not have many negative things to say about this novel.

#### **Plot Summary**

*How to Meet Boys* is a novel that covers two girls and their love lives. Both girls, Mikayla and Lucy, have not had the best relationships in the past causing there to be times of uncertainty. School had just gotten out and they are looking forward to a summer full of being independent. Lucy's grandparents own an apple orchard and a store, along with a summer house. Mikayla and Lucy are allowed to stay in the summer house by themselves, but also allow another one of their friends, Ava, to join in on the party. Ava had quit an internship without her mother knowing because her boss tried to hook up with her. All three of the girls found jobs, but Mikayla and Lucy have some very interesting ones. Lucy ends up having to work with one of

her old middle school crushes, Jackson. Jackson and Lucy have had an awkward past leading to the jealousy of Lucy over Mikayla and Jackson's relationship. The relationship between them caused a fight with Mikayla and Lucy that lasted a majority of the novel. One day, Gus was having a bad apple problem at his catering job, causing for Lucy and Gus to meet. This later turns out to very good for both of them. Along with Lucy and Gus's relationship comes a canoeing trip that has them on an island for a night. That night caused them to find some chemistry between each other. Overall, *How to Meet Boys* ended with Mikayla and Lucy both having very good relationships.

### Recommendation

I would recommend this novel to anyone in eighth grade and up. I would say this because though it is a romance there are not any serious parts that someone in eighth grade could not handle. *How to Meet Boys* is not the easiest to follow due to the fact that the chapters are separated by character. So if you easily forget certain details, this is not the best type of book for you. Altogether, *How to Meet Boys* is a book that I would recommend to those who like a decent romance, even though it has parts that can get confusing.

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### Glass says

15% DNF

Not for me. :(

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### Aimee ♥ | Aimee, Always says

After seeing negative review after negative review for this novel, I've already lowered my expectations and braced myself for what was to come. That being said, I still couldn't enjoy the novel at all. In fact, I basically rolled my eyes throughout the whole thing!

There are two main stories in this one: Mikayla's and Lucy's. **I found both main characters to have sort of juvenile voices**--I couldn't picture them being--how old are they again? 16? 17? Anyhow, the narration was a bit more middle grade-esque rather than YA. **Let's admit that there aren't a lot of teen girls who "can't" talk to boys.** Kids, sure. There's the whole cooties thing we've all experienced in grade school. Girls from an all-girls school? Acceptable. But Mikayla was your ordinary teen. Except that she "couldn't talk to boys."

"I was good at lots of things and confident about that. There was just one thing that made me feel completely inept, and that was talking to guys."

Oh my God, shut up and pull yourself together, girl!

"Jackson." Only my mouth was all tense because my jaw was clenched so it came out as "Shee-shaw."

What the fuck? Does *Jackson* sound ANYTHING AT ALL like *Shee-shaw*?

Now, **another thing that bothered me a lot was how LONG it took the Mikayla to find out who Jackson was.** (I'm not spoiling anything, right? It's in the synopsis.) This part of the story dragged on forever. The first thing I ask people when we meet is what their name is. Okay, they didn't meet in a normal circumstance, but why didn't she ask for his name during their second meeting? I would not want to bond or hang out with people if I didn't know who they were.

**We also have a load of characters who were just THERE and hardly had any purpose.** They were just props to make "spice up" the plot. There's Ava, the third wheel in their group. I felt like she was just thrown into the story for no reason at all, and even falls asleep while Lucy explains her problem! Lucy's mom doesn't do a much, aside from embarrassing Lucy. There's also Jackson's troubled brother who I thought would play a big role in the story but didn't do anything.

There were two romantic storylines as well. **Jackson and Mikayla had this insta-love that was boring as hell.** I didn't care about them at all and just wanted them to stop getting on my nerves. I liked Lucy and Gus a lot better. They got to know each other a bit, and had these cute little flirty moments that made me smile a bit.

"Boyfriend, girlfriend," Jackson said. "Me, you."

What are you, a dating robot?

"I had no "talk to cute boys" function. My model was lacking that. I needed an upgrade."

Ah, great. Both of you are robots. Don't you guys make a happy couple?

**The writing style was okay not okay.** Some things were a bit repetitive and were mentioned over and over. Oh wait, there was this: "Seriously?!?!" Yep. My eyes rolled, obviously. "?!?!" is not something I want to see in published novels. It comes off as unprofessional rather than realistic.

Friendship... WHAT FRIENDSHIP? When my friends and I have crushes on guys, even if they're at THE SAME TIME, we just laugh it off and joke about it. We don't ignore each other and pretend to be fine with it if we're not! **Real friends don't let guys get in the way of their amazing friendships, okay?**

*How to Meet Boys* was definitely not my type of book, and I'm not sure whose type it might be. Give it a shot and test it out at your own risk. Well, that turned out more rant-y than I expected. To be honest, this whole post was going to be a compilation of the book's idiotic quotes plus GIF reactions to them, but that wasn't enough to sum everything up.

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**eileen says**

**Check out more of my reviews at [Singing and Reading in the Rain!](#)**

It seems that the contemporary books I count on to lift my spirits have actually been crashing and burning, this one unfortunately not being that one book to break my unlucky streak.

At the end of eighth grade, Lucy Carpenter was mortified when she tried to make a move on her best guy friend, Jackson, wherein he responded, "Don't." Years later, Lucy, moving in with Mikayla to a quant house, is suddenly thrust back into Jackson's world, but that's where the cliché story ends. Jackson actually ends up falling for Lucy's best friend Mikayla, which causes a series of problems and turmoil. Personally, I felt that Mikayla and Jackson's relationship was so stupid because she didn't even know his name at first and then all of a sudden she was willing to throw away her best friend for the sake of a guy she barely knew. If my best friend had bad history with someone, I wouldn't go after that someone if I barely knew him or her. But not only was their relationship rushed and implausible, Mikayla briefly asked Lucy her opinion, and when Lucy replied a vague, "Sure," Mikayla interpreted it as a sign that she was doing things right and shouldn't change the amount of communication she was having with him. If you're her best friend, you should be able to tell she's not sincere, and you should be trying to take the relationship slower for the sake of your friend. Maybe it's unorthodox of me, but personally I believe that a friendship takes precedence over a romance.

How to Meet Boys is told in both Mikayla and Lucy's perspectives, so you see both of them falling for a guy and having their share of romantic moments. I didn't particularly favor any of the relationships featured, and I felt that the conversation between the two couples at times was dry and lifeless.

Basically \*and the following is an exaggeration\*:

Lucy: hey

Love Interest: hey

L: what's up you look different

LI: nah it's probably just my new watch

L: lol cool

Lucy didn't even seem that bothered by Mikayla's relationship with Jackson, but we were told that she isn't supposed to like the idea of her almost-boyfriend and her best friend hooking up. Whenever she's not having a flimsy rant over how upset she is about the whole thing, she's having a side romance. Since they worked together at Lucy's grandparent's store, they spent a lot of time together. By that point, I believed there was more chemistry between Lucy and Jackson than either of the real relationships going. Lucy and Mikayla's friend dynamic is flimsy at best, and it's irrelevant to have the fact that they're best friends thrown in there if they don't even spend that much time with each other.

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## Amy says

3.5 stars

I liked this book okay. I felt like it was a slower paced book, but for once, I didn't mind that aspect of it. I just didn't love it.

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## Celine says

**This review can also be found at [YA Midnight Reads](#)**

## DNF around 52%

Ooh, boy. This book and I did not get along well. How to Meet Boys is the example of useless drama. This will not be a happy review, that's for sure.

The thing with How to Meet Boys is the following: there is no real conflict, but the characters are making it one. The big problem is that there's this girl, Lucy, who used to crush on a guy, Jackson. That was years ago, and he rejected her then. Ever since, Lucy's disliked Jackson and wants nothing to do with him. Then there's Mikayla, Lucy's best friend, who runs into this guy she immediately likes and crushes on. Big surprise: it's Jackson. Okay, so it could be a more fortunate situation, but still, what's the deal? Okay, so Lucy used to like him, but not anymore. But noooo, it's all a big drama and all of a sudden their "friendship feels different" and blahblahblah, this is me rolling my eyes.

I'm serious. Mikayla and Jackson kiss, Lucy sees them. First thing next morning, Mikayla tells Lucy what happened with Jackson. She's not secretive about it, she just tells Lucy. Then Lucy goes around saying stuff like this:

It's just... I really trusted her. With everything. [...] And now, I'm not sure that I can.

Dramatic much? No worries though, Lucy isn't the only overly dramatic character in this book. Mikayla is as well, though in a different way. This story is told in dual POV, and I just couldn't tell these two apart. I had to check a couple of times whose chapter I was reading again. They sounded exactly the same, even though we're told - told, not shown - that Mikayla is the shy one who can't talk when she's around boys. Well. I noticed none of that. Yes, in a couple of chapters she stammers a bit and has nothing interesting to say, but then after she's crushing on Jackson she's suddenly all flirty and not awkward at all anymore. Huh? Oh, but perhaps it has to do with this "connection" she feels with Jackson. Because they "just click", you know, even though they know nothing about each other. I mean, it's all just soo romantic, don't you think? Just look at this quote!

But if this wasn't love at first (and second and third) sight, what was it? Since the day Jackson had nearly run me off the road, this was how I felt around him.

One thing I'll say about Mikayla: she can do math. Indeed, she thinks this after having had a grand total of THREE encounters with Jackson. (Ironically, I keep mistyping his name as Kackson. FYI, "kak" in Dutch means "shit". Hah.) And then, completely out of nowhere, they kiss! Hooray!

NO. I'm unshipping this SO HARD. Mikayla and Jackson have less than zero chemistry. They have negative chemistry. They have had like two conversations by the time they're kissing. And those conversations were meaningless and boring. I'm sorry, I'm just not feeling the love here. Or should I say the instant love?

I was also really, really pissed off at the way Lucy saw Jackson. She constantly refers to that time she tried to kiss him and he didn't want her to. He said, "Uh, don't." Okay, so he could have phrased it better, but I still see no problem with this. Yes, it must've been embarrassing, but if he didn't want to be with Lucy he had EVERY right to reject her. Hell, he has every right to reject her even when he does want her. But Lucy just keeps saying that he was so rude and how she hates him for that et cetera et cetera. I'm sorry, but NO. A world of no. If someone tries to kiss you and you don't want them to, you can reject them however the hell

you want. You have NO obligation to that other person. You can say "uh, don't", you can say "Oh, I'm really sorry, but I don't feel that way about you" or you can say "get the HELL away from me" and it's all fine. This goes for both boys and girls. I'm just really not okay with the message this book seems to be sending out.

Another thing I had trouble with was the writing. It was ALL telling and zero showing. Right in the first chapter of the books we're introduced to the characters, and a little bit of information is told about each of them, and a little bit of information is told about their lives, and their summer, and how they came to be here for the summer, and where Lucy's going to work this summer, and that her grandparents are trying to get sued by Apple (don't ask), and wah wah wah. I don't care. SHOW me these things. SHOW me who these characters are. Alas, I'm afraid that the characters don't get fleshed out. Halfway through the book, I still knew next to nothing about them. Only what jobs they had and what their relationships were. Also, THIS:

Seriously?!?!

Yes, SERIOUSLY?!?! "?!?!" is NOT something I ever want to see in a book. Ever. It should be banned from all books, and I'm really surprised an editor didn't catch this. "?!?!" is just no. No no no no no.

This book. I just couldn't. Maybe it'll work out better for other people, but as it is, this book and I didn't "just click". I DNF'ed this around 52%.

*~Thank you HarperTeen for sending me this copy~*

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## **Dark Faerie Tales says**

Review courtesy of Dark Faerie Tales

Quick & Dirty: As contemporary reads go, this one disappointed me overall, for many reasons. The writing and characters did not live up to the fantastic cover.

Opening Sentence: "Is this it?"

The Review:

Lucy and Mikayla are moving back to Bridgeport for the Summer, and they are determined to break their shy shell while they're there. But nothing is turning out as planned. Lucy's working with her old friend Jackson, who dissed and spread rumors about her in 7th grade, plus Mikayla can't seem to talk to boys without rambling or being extremely clumsy. When Mikayla falls for someone Lucy has called off-limits for, a fight begins. What will it take to fix the summer and their friendship?

To tell you the truth, I wasn't impressed with this book — in the slightest. When I looked at the cover, I thought "aww! I bet this one is great!" (I tend to judge a book by its cover, oops) I was bitterly disappointed. Everything was basic about How to Meet Boys, and no matter how hard I tried to give it a chance, I wasn't feeling it. I'll explain why: the plot was extremely unoriginal, as were the characters, the plot, and the writing style. The writing style irritated me most. Is it amateur hour? It was so incredibly novist, and we got little insight on what the character was thinking. When we did, it was in simple sentences like "the guilt was crushing" or "I was worried." Novels have to be very unique and fun to get me to enjoy them a lot, especially contemporary ones, since we can't usually throw in a dragon or a couple of murders. To top it all off, the

humor did not make me laugh. This book made me yawn and although the cover made it seem promising, I won't ever open this one again.

This was told from two points of views, Mikayla and Lucy. I didn't identify with either. They're both bad with boys. Lucy never takes chances since Jackson blew her off, and Mikayla can only stutter when faced with a cute guy. I was on Lucy's side most of the book because I honestly thought Mikayla was being an annoying brat. Once she accepted that she was not the one being wronged, and started to see Lucy's side of the story as well as her own, I softened and started to like her better. Then we have the boys. Jackson, Mikayla's love interest, I never started to like. From the start I hated him with a passion, for his unrealistic perfection when he was supposed to be the one who ditched Lucy. I had heard so much from Lucy's POV about how he had bashed any chances for her to take risks, and trust boys, and then we are introduced to this amazing, hot guy? Lucy tried to kiss him, he said "um, no", and rumors sprung up around school. When he apologizes (finally) I was still not satisfied. Lucy was, and even forgave him, which personally I thought was ridiculous — but what can you do? Gus, on the other hand, was sweet and a little dorky, making for an adorable romance. I also liked how he was different from the traditional love interest. Generally, we have the dark, mysterious one, or the funny, light one, always with blonde or brown or black hair. Gus has red hair, he's a ginger! Yay! I loved this one piece of originality that strayed from the typical novel boy. It felt like a victory to me.

Altogether, I had expectations that were unfulfilled, and they weren't all based on the cover. I wanted an exciting plot line, a unique romance, some humor. I laughed once in this whole novel and I'm a laugher, so I feel rather let down. The writing style was basic to the point that warranted an eye roll, and the characters were so-so. So much could have been resolved if everyone hadn't been so stubborn, why can't they open their mouths until the end? I have no doubt that this will please certain others, but I have high standards (being a book reviewer and all) and was not satisfied. If the plot interests you, go for it- maybe you'll like it more than me.

Notable Scene:

It was just like Claire had said: he'd dated a hundred girls since that dumb incident with me. Summertime had barely begun, and here he was, hooking up with someone.

Then I looked closer. The girl was tall with long, wavy brown hair, and was wearing plaid shorts that showed off her long, toned legs.

Jackson? Kissing Mikayla?

Or should I say: Mikayla, kissing Jackson?

Seriously?!?!

FTC Advisory: HarperTeen provided me with a copy of How to Meet Boys. No goody bags, sponsorships, "material connections," or bribes were exchanged for my review.

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### **Christine Alibutud says**

It's never easy for me to give a book a rating lower than 3 stars, but then some books you just can't help but do so. Sadly, I am rating this book 2 stars because it just wasn't doing it for me. To be honest, this book only piqued my interest because of the title (Yes, I am very fond of titles). After that, I read the synopsis, and I

was like, "Hmm, why don't I give it a try?" .....and so I did.

*I'll just give you a brief look on my journey with this book:*

Learning about this book for the very first time:

After reading the title:

Started reading the book:

Then after awhile:

In the end:

Yes, I was disappointed with this one, especially since I've been very excited to start reading this. The story just felt too overly-dramatic and it was kind of loose in terms of its concept. I didn't feel any connection with the characters, as well. They were kind of irritating to me, and I didn't like how they communicated with each other.

This book just wasn't for me. Sigh, just when I thought I finally found a cure to my reading hiatus.

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**Katy says**

[

My first complaint is I could never get a grasp of the

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