



Emmy & Oliver

By Robin Benway

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Emmy & Oliver By Robin Benway

Emmy and Oliver were going to be best friends forever, or maybe even more, before their futures were ripped apart. In Emmy's soul, despite the space and time between them, their connection has never been severed. But is their story still written in the stars? Or are their hearts like the pieces of two different puzzles—impossible to fit together?

Emmy just wants to be in charge of her own life. . . . She wants to stay out late, surf her favorite beach—go anywhere without her parents' relentless worrying. But Emmy's parents can't seem to let her grow up—not since the day Oliver disappeared.

Oliver needs a moment to figure out his heart. . . . He'd thought, all these years, that his dad was the good guy. He never knew that it was his father who had kidnapped him and kept him on the run. Discovering it, and finding himself returned to his old hometown, all at once, has his heart racing, and his thoughts swirling.

Readers who love Sarah Dessen will devour these pages with hearts in throats as Emmy and Oliver struggle to face the messy, confusing consequences of Oliver's father's crime. Full of romance, coming-of-age emotion, and heartache, these two equally compelling characters create an unforgettable story.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Emmy and Oliver were the best of friends up until the third grade, when Oliver disappeared, leaving their community forever changed. Years later, high school senior Emmy still lives next door to the house where Oliver lived with his mother and she has never been able to forget him. Emmy lives with the consequences of Oliver's kidnapping, as her parents smother her with rules and restrictions meant to keep her safe. She doesn't feel like she can be her own person with the weight of the past constantly influencing her life. But then one day, Oliver is back. He is grown up, guarded, and confused. Oliver thought that his mother had abandoned him, when in fact his father kidnapped him, and he was discovered by chance when he gives fingerprints on a school field trip. Although Emmy is a vaguely familiar face, he doesn't know how to bridge the time gap and find a place to belong in this community again. Oliver and Emmy try to do just that, amid the chaos surrounding Oliver's past and Emmy's uncertain future. The circumstances of this story provide a perfect setting to explore how two young people navigate new adulthood and forge new identities. This book is at times heartfelt, funny, irreverent, and ultimately satisfying. VERDICT Plot driven as well as introspective, it is a good choice for fans of Stephanie Perkins's *Anna and the French Kiss* (Dutton, 2010) or any of Sarah Dessen's novels.—Tara Kron, formerly at School Library Journal

Review

Emmy & Oliver is wonderful. Funny, heartbreakin, and true... just like life. Robin Benway has written characters I felt like I'd known forever, and was so sad to see go. A must read. (Morgan Matson, author of *Since You've Been Gone*)

“Robin Benway writes with her full heart. *Emmy & Oliver* is a genuinely sweet and funny novel bursting with the inextinguishable forces of love—between parents and children, distant and inseparable friends, new and reunited lovers.” (Stephanie Perkins, New York Times bestselling author of *Isla and the Happily Ever After*)

“Benway examines split loyalties, the impact of confessional, and how broken bonds can be mended... Benway’s intriguing premise and honest tone are a winning combination as she movingly portrays the growing trust between her characters.” (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

“At times heartfelt, funny, irreverent, and ultimately satisfying... a good choice for fans of Stephanie Perkins’s *Anna and the French Kiss* or any of Sarah Dessen’s novels.” (School Library Journal)

“Benway fearlessly examines the effects of loss and return from every perspective... Hope, confusion, frustration, and love coexist without shame as teens and parents come to grips with the realization that nothing stays the same no matter how desperately we want it to.” (Booklist)

“Benway peels away the surface and digs down to the raw emotions the teens and their families feel... as a portrait of the emerging adolescent, it engages.” (Kirkus)

“This realistic and painful story... twists and turns... until the bittersweet, yet perfect, ending. (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

“Emmy’s narration is smart and sassy, and the romance plot is satisfying... An unusual blend of a soulmate story, a melodramatic plot, and a realistic book about adjustment, growth, and change, this will please

romance fans as well as pragmatic souls with a sentimental streak.” (Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books)

From the Back Cover

Emmy just wants to be in charge of her own life.

She wants to stay out late, surf at her favorite beach—go anywhere without her parents' relentless worrying. But Emmy's parents can't seem to let her go—not since the day ten years ago when her best friend, Oliver, disappeared.

Oliver needs a moment to figure it all out.

He'd thought, all these years, that his father was the good guy. He never knew that his dad had kidnapped him and kept him on the run. Discovering it all at once—and returning to his old hometown—has his heart aching and his thoughts swirling.

Emmy & Oliver were going to be best friends forever.

They could have been even more, before their futures were ripped apart. To Emmy, despite the space and time between them, their connection has never been severed. But is their story still meant to be? Or are their hearts like the pieces of two different puzzles—impossible to fit together?

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Arthur Dickison:

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or perhaps goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people feel enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. They are really reading whatever they have because their hobby is actually reading a book. How about the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book whenever they found difficult problem or even exercise. Well, probably you will want this Emmy & Oliver.

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Lillian Thrasher:

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Alexandra Stafford:

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