



# Audrey, Wait!

*Robin Benway*

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**Audrey, Wait!** Robin Benway

Everybody's singing, "Audrey, Wait!"

Audrey Cuttler's life hasn't been the same since that song, "Audrey, Wait!" hit the airwaves. All she wants to do is go to concerts, hang out with her friends, and maybe score a date with the cute boy who works with her at the Scooper Dooper.

But now, her ex-boyfriend's song about their breakup is at the top of the charts and she's suddenly famous! The paparazzi won't leave her alone, the tabloids are trying to make her into some kind of rock goddess, and the Internet is documenting her every move!

Will Audrey ever be able to have a normal life again? Get ready to find out, because it's time for Audrey to tell her side of the story.

## Audrey, Wait! Details

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Author : Robin Benway

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# From Reader Review Audrey, Wait! for online ebook

## Carla says

When Audrey breaks up with her wanna be rock star boyfriend, little does she realise that later on that night, at a performance in front of an A&R gut, he hits the big time with a song about her. Not about how nice she is, or what an awesome girlfriend she was, no, he sings about their break up and how she broke his heart. The song rockets to number one in the charts and soon Audrey's life is turned upside down. Her outfits are scrutinised and copied, her love life hits the headlines, but all she wants to be is a normal teenage girl. A girl who can go out on a date without being photographed, a girl who can listen to music so loud and dance so hard without worrying about it being caught on film.

Obviously, this causes problems for Audrey. How does she deal with her new found crush on James, the quirky music minded guy who works with her at the Scooper-Dooper, or her celebrity obsessed best friend Victoria? As a nation who is obsessed with the lives of the rich and famous, gossip magazines fly off our shelves with total abandon. So, it goes without saying that when rumors spread about Audrey, her crush James, and her ex Evan.....things go off with a bang.

First off, Robin Benway has amazing taste in music, and her passion and zest for it shines out of the pages. You can tell just how much she loves music by the way it's expressed by Audrey. She really shows you how much music can influence peoples lives, and how important music actually is to some people. Being a massive music fan myself, I really connected to Audrey. She was witty and one step ahead of everyone in the cool stakes. Her voice really stood out and thought to myself not once, I would love to have this girl as my friend. She made me laugh out loud, giggle like a teenager and become so engrossed in her tale.

It really tells the tale of what being an unwanted celebrity must feel like; one minute your a normal girl with boy problems, the next your "that" girl who broke someones heart, your while life on display for all to see. I think this was a really unique tale because in todays society people would do literally anything to get famous, and get famous fast. You see what becoming a reluctant star can do to you and how it can affect your mundane lives.

I loved reading about Audrey's problems, the hilarious moments where I just could see miles away what was happening, but Audrey had her head in the clouds, or her ears jammed with earphones. I am so glad that the UK rights for this book sold, and I hope more people pick this up off the self, I haven't laughed so much when reading a book in such a long time. This is easily one of the best YA books I have read in a long time.

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## Susan says

A girl finally brings herself to break up with her agreeable(ish) but self-centered slacker boyfriend, and he chooses that moment to finally pay attention to her. Unfortunately, the attention is paid in the form of an angst-ridden song that ends up becoming his band's big break. Naturally this turns Audrey a celebrity and she finds herself practically held hostage by her new insta-fame. I wonder if anyone can read this book now and *not* think (if even for a moment) of the once-unavoidable "Hey There Delilah"? At any rate, the chain of events that follow are pretty predictable: friendships are strained while former school enemies try to mooch off any residual limelight they can absorb, Audrey's parents end up finding out far too much information

about her love life, and ultimately there's a showdown with her ex. Hijinks ensue. Still, Audrey's friends and ex-boyfriend are pretty entertaining. Evan inevitably calls to mind "that guy" probably all of us have dated at one point (because who isn't susceptible to a guy with a guitar?) Audrey herself is a little prickly at times, but stumbles into a fair share of of fairly funny situations, and the music references fly pretty fast and furious. All in all, I came out of it feeling that Meg Cabot may have a few things to answer for because this book felt tighter (and smarter) than some of her books have lately, and will probably snag a lot of her fan base.

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## **Elizabeth Wallace says**

Wow. I expected this book to be good, and boy was I wrong, it was amazzzzing! I liked Audrey's character, the writing style, the music references, the plot, and how realistic it was while still being very light-readish. When I saw the description, I was like "this is unexpected, it seems pretty cool." Then when I actually got my hands on the book, I saw that it was reviewed by Meg Cabot, and I was pretty worried about the originality of it all. But no worries, Audrey, Wait! was as amazing as the description.

Audrey has decided to break up with her, space-cadet, self and band-obsessed boyfriend. She's pretty much over it until that night when, at the concert, she hears his band's new song a breakup song that would make her want to dance, if it weren't about her! Lucky (JK) for her, a guy from a record company is at the performance, and just after things start to calm down a bit, she hears THE SONG on the radio. Audrey, wait (the song) is a huge hit and soon it's all over the radio and the paparazzi is after her. But Aud just wants to get back to life, school, and the pursuit of happiness (plus possibly a new boyfriend). Though there are plenty of benefits of being famous, it doesn't really (in Audrey's opinion) balance out being followed everywhere, or balance out all the jealous girls, adoring fans, gawkers, and people who want to get money off of cell phone pictures.

Through this all Audrey stays lovable, funny, and as original as the plot. Also, I loved her music taste. The bits of songs at the beginnings of each chapter were things that I looked forward to, and I loved loved loved the quote from Bea's Song (River Trilogy II) by The Cowboy Junkies. I love not feeling alone in my music taste.

All in all, A plus plus plus (and if you don't love my review, my other one was better but I lost it!!!!!!)

P.S. If you loved the music references as much as I did, you might also like *Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac* by whatserface.

P.P.S. If you loved the laughs, you may like *The Queen Geek Social Club*.

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## **Ash says**

Audrey has just dumped her sort a loser boyfriend who then writes a song about how she dumped him. Now she and the song have become famous. Seen as the villain in the song she's scrutinized by the public and her whole life has turned upside down.

I really tried. Really I did, but after hitting the fourth chapter and the 50th f-bomb I just couldn't do it. I know

teens cuss, and I know they use the f word, but seriously? Was that really necessary? I literally stopped reading and started opening random pages. 9 out of 10 times I found the f-bomb and EVERY time there was a cuss word. Come on people, you don't even use the word right. In case you didn't know it's a verb, NOT an adverb or adjective. Inanimate objects can't f\*#\$\$. Okay? Okay.

I skimmed the rest of the book and ended up reading most of it. I was really tempted to read the whole thing because there were some very funny parts. Even though I didn't read the whole thing through, I could see why all those celebrities complain about not having privacy and all those tabloids that spread lies.

All the cussing really takes away from the book though. It was distracting and kept me from getting into the story. There were times when a character would start cussing up a storm and it didn't seem like something they would do or that they'd react that way. At the beginning I really didn't like Audrey. She seemed superficial and mean at times, but she grows a lot by end of the book.

If you don't mind cussing then I think you could really enjoy this book. I really wish there would've been less though, because I think I could've liked it.

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## **Agn? says**

### **WHAT IS IT ABOUT?**

Robin Benway's young adult novel "Audrey, Wait!" centers around an ordinary teenager from California, Audrey Cuttler, who loves music, works at an ice cream shop and has, in her own words, an elephantine cat. But after Audrey breaks up with her self-centered boyfriend and he writes a song about it, everything changes seemingly overnight. As the song "Audrey, Wait!" races up the charts, Audrey gets caught in the spotlight and cannot even leave the house without a mob of paparazzi documenting her every step. All Audrey wants is to hang out with her friends, go to concerts and maybe score a date with a cute guy from her work, but all of that suddenly seems like an impossible dream.

### **THUMBS UP:**

#### *1) Entertaining and enjoyable read.*

"Audrey, Wait!" is a light and quick read with short chapters and nice flow. It is part a teen drama, part a sweet romantic comedy, and even though the plot is a little bit predictable, it's nonetheless entertaining and enjoyable.

#### *2) Realistic downside of being famous.*

Although I am sure that quite a few girls would dream of being in Audrey's shoes, Benway depicts (and does so very believably, I should add) how stressful, frustrating and exhausting it might be, especially if all the fame comes undeserved and unwanted.

#### *3) Audrey's parents are great!*

Quite often parents in similar teenage-oriented novels are either lame and oblivious, or are being made fun of, or both, and I am sick and tired of that. For a change, Audrey's parents are understanding, caring, supportive and kind of cool, and although Audrey doesn't tell EVERYTHING to her parents and sometimes thinks they are unreasonable and weird, she loves and respects them, which, in my opinion, is way more realistic.

#### *4) For music fans.*

Chapter titles in “Audrey, Wait!” are song lyrics, but since I never heard most of these songs and didn’t even recognize most of the bands, this feature didn’t have any effect on me. However, I imagine that someone who is way more into music than I am would appreciate this detail as well as many music-related conversations and references throughout the book, and would also relate to Audrey’s love for music.

### **COULD BE BETTER:**

#### *1) Underdeveloped characters.*

Most of the characters in “Audrey, Wait!” are likable but flawed as they make mistakes and occasionally do stupid things, which in general is a sign of multidimensionality. However, I had difficulties understanding and relating to them (for example, halfway through the story I got fed up with Victoria, Audrey’s best friend, who seemed shallow and kind of sucked at being the best friend). Even though I wouldn’t call the characters in this book one-dimensional, all of them, except maybe for Audrey, could use some development. Also, the characters are funny and sarcastic (especially Audrey), but sometimes the jokes feel a little bit forced, as if the personages are trying too hard to seem cool and witty.

#### *2) Lack of depth.*

Although the story was wrapped up really nicely, I wish it had more depth or some unique message. Also, solutions to certain problems throughout the book sometimes seemed a little bit too convenient and too quick, but it actually didn’t bother me that much.

### **VERDICT: 3.5 out of 5**

“Audrey, Wait!” by Robin Benway is a light, quick, entertaining and very enjoyable read that realistically portrays the downside of being famous. It has both teen drama and sweet romance, but lacks character development and bigger message.

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### **Jen says**

I grew up as a Jenny amidst Tommy Tutone's "Jenny (867-5309)." I know an Eileen who lived through the heyday of "Come on, Eileen." These songs, however, were not written ABOUT us, they just featured our names. Imagine if you broke up with a dude who then turned around and wrote a song about how cold hearted you were, with the annoying refrain of "Your name, wait!" Audrey is that girl, and she's immediately launched into the public eye (a place in which she is none too comfortable). The characters were adorable and well crafted; the dialogue was very Gilmore Girls-esque: snappy and witty. Overall it was a quick and entertaining read.

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### **Christina (A Reader of Fictions) says**

With Audrey, Wait!, I’ve now read all of Robin Benway’s books. It’s been ups and downs for me for the most part. She definitely has major contemporary talent, but some of them were not my favorites tbh. Audrey, Wait! was Benway’s first book, and there’s a lot to recommend it but she’s also come a long way since then.

Audrey’s not really what I might have expected. In general, Benway’s heroines have been very likable, but

Audrey's a bit harder to take. She's a teenager, I guess, with all that can come with that. She makes some seriously questionable choices and she's the kind of selfish where she has no idea she's selfish. It's a character arc thing, but not one that I think gets totally nailed in the story. Audrey goes from zero to sixty emotionally, from not remotely self-aware to aware and changed in no time. While the scene itself was satisfying, the reconciliations were overly simplified.

After breaking up with her boyfriend, Evan, he writes a song about her dumping him that becomes a huge success. This thrusts Audrey into the spotlight. The concept is fairly solid, though obviously not the most realistic in the world, because I don't think Audrey would get THAT famous because of the song tbh. However, as a fictional idea, I'm down.

Her fame begins to cause problems with her relationships. Her best friend, Victoria, keeps urging her to milk it, to take all the free shit being offered to her, to be on a reality show, to get endorsements, despite Audrey's not wanting the limelight. I think that's a good conflict to be set up, but I'm disappointed that, in the end, Audrey takes all the blame. Apparently she's the selfish one for not wanting her friend to have fun with her pain, when in fact I think Victoria's recommendations were fucked up and terrible. I really wish that had been addressed, but it wasn't.

The romance is adorable, though, again, it would have been better if, after the fight towards the end, they had a real reconciliation. Instead, Audrey apologizes and everything's fine. Still, I think this is a nice high school love sort of relationship. They're not going to last past graduation, but they'll have a good experience while it does last. Also, cute nerdy gawky ginger = adorbs.

While not up to the standard of Emmy & Oliver, my personal Benway favorite, Audrey, Wait! was a good read, and I'm glad I took the time to venture into her backlist.

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### **Heather 'Bookables' says**

Audrey, Wait! was a totally cute book. I loved reading about how a entire persons life can change with the course of one song.

If you want a cute read, this is def. worth your time!

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### **Tatiana says**

Let me first say that this book is highly praised by both readers and literary critics, therefore I am sure there is a lot of merit to it. However for me "Audrey, Wait!" simply didn't work.

There are several reasons why I didn't like this book: 15-16 year-olds having sex, drinking and taking drugs, excessive and unnecessary use of f-word, Audrey's unrealistic fame (I don't think anybody would be interested in a girl who had a song written about her, no matter how popular this song is). I was able disregard these minor issues, because I've seen and read it all before and don't have much of a problem with that. What I couldn't get over was the "voice" of the book, Audrey's voice. Maybe I don't remember what it is being a teenager anymore, or maybe I have never been a teenager like Audrey, but I found her annoying to no extent. The whining, the snarkiness, the carelessness - I absolutely disliked this character and it almost never happens to me. I didn't think Audrey (or anyone in this book) was a multidimensional character either.

It seemed like the defining characteristics of Audrey were her love for music and cat and snarkiness.

Another thing, this book painfully reminded me of both "Nick and Nora's Infinite Playlist" and "Juno." Same obsession with music and pretentiously "sophisticated" teenage conversations which I have never heard in real life.

It was a chore for me to finish this book, but it doesn't mean I would recommend it to nobody. Obviously, there is an audience for this kind of literature, many people (especially younger teenagers and music fans) have and will enjoy it. Unfortunately, I am just not one of these people.

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### ???s **Xamante de los spoilersX** says

TODO MAL. **TODO** MAL.

¿Que te paso Robin?. ¡Esto es un ultraje, un escándalo!

Esto podría haber sido SO MUCH MORE. Tenemos a la protagonista que según la gente es la nueva Courtney Love, y le hacen slut-shaming a más no poder y en vez de que el libro sea **"No soy una puta, NINGUNA chica es una puta, la palabra PUTA no es más que un invento misógino para hacer sentir mal a las mujeres y denigrarlas por ser dueñas de su vida sexual"** termina siendo "¡Yo no soy una puta!, ¡yo no soy como ESAS chicas!". Odio esos dobles estándares de mierda a la final les molesta que les digan puta y vez de avivarse y darse cuenta que es un ¡INVENTO MISÓGINO! se la pasan haciendo slut-shaming a otras mujeres. ¡IDIOTAS!.

La idiota de la protagonista es igual que la tarada de Storm. Si quieren leer un libro BUENO de Robin les recomiendo Emmy & Oliver.

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### **Steph (Reviewer X) says**

I AM SO GLAD I GOT TO READ THIS BOOK!

Audrey, Wait! is fucking awesome. I hope we can aptly conclude how much thought I'm putting behind that statement, given this is the first time I've outright cursed on this blog. (Which is surprising, actually, as I'm such a potty mouth.)

When I started this book, I was expecting great things because of all the glowing reviews it'd received. I went out of my way to buy it, too, which isn't something I do often. Some people have been saying this book is fantastic from the get-go. I agree the first chapter is positively charming. It is. But then chapter two slowed down, and I was afraid of continuing on, because I was afraid the rest would go downhill, la too many books to remember, let alone list.

Turns out I could not be more wrong. The "slow down" was actually not as slow as I figured (how did I reach that conclusion?), and as soon as I got past this perceived bump on the road, the book charged forward with such flair, such candor, and a voice that just won't quit. The writing could not be more pitch-perfect (and though there's a lot of cursing—not a problem with me, but with others it'll be, I'm sure—the



profanity! is! perfectly! done!) to a teen's. While the narrative often reads like the character is enacting a monologue (and most assuredly not a monotonous one), it's also got this magnetic, readable quality that makes it shine.

And finally, to my favorite part of any review: the characters. Beautiful to the third power, well-drawn, three-dimensional; in short: great. The development was mind-blowing, not only on the part of the main character, the witty Audrey, but also Victoria's, Jonah's, and James's. And, of course, Evan, even though he's absent for most of the novel. They all—especially Audrey—had this amazing sense of humor that kept me turning pages. Pair this up with the quick pacing and edgy realism, and you've got yourself a winner.

Robin Benway's got one hell of a skill on her hand. I cannot wait to see what she comes up with next. Whatever it is, Robin, please don't kill it by sticking *My Chemical Romance* in the middle :P

(To which Robin replied that she loves MCR. Aww.)

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### **Alex says**

I. Am. Speechless. This is such an amazing, fantastic, spectacular book filled with wit on nearly every page! While not the most diverse book, it's unique and quirky, and I recommend it to any teenage girl (or guy, who knows?) because it will make you laugh so hard. Five stars! :D

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### **Princess Bookie says**

My Thoughts: *Audrey, Wait!* is an amazing book! Its one of the best books I've read this year! I just loved it from start to finish! I usually don't rate books this high because either 1. They just aren't that great. 2. Because they don't seem to compare to my obsession of how good *The Twilight Saga* or *Harry Potter* was. I do enjoy books but I don't love love love them! This one was one I actually loved. I loved Audrey, and I loved James. I even loved to hate Evan! I don't know why I waited so long to read this. It stayed on my wishlist for a while, then once I got it it went on the bookshelf until a few weeks ago, I needed a new book for a paperbackswap game and it had to be young adult so I choose to put this one in! This book had it all. Humor, belonging, and a sense of excitement. Have you ever dated a boy in a band? I have and I've been there before! I totally understood Audrey!!! Go out and read this book, like now! Are you at the bookstore yet?

Overall: GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT, that's really all there is to it!

Cover: I really like this cover is cute! It totally fits. I had the softcover so this was the cover. I looked and the hardcover image is different. I definitely prefer this one over the hardcover. (Reviewed by Princessbookie.com)

What I'd Give It:

5/5 cupcakes

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## **Shinjini says**

Wow, that was fast. This was quite entertaining.

Review to come.

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## **Heidi says**

So I think we all know by now that contemporary? So not my main squeeze. I'll step out with one every once in a while, and after reading nothing but praise for Robin Benway's *Audrey, Wait!*, I decided it was worth a shot. Of course, before cracking that spine I had to sit myself down and have a talk: I was going to have to suspend disbelief, big time. I wasn't going to let the notion that the entire plot of *Audrey, Wait!* is utterly ridiculous and unrealistic overcome my enjoyment of the story. I was going to go with it. And you know what? It really worked! Telling myself not to get caught up in the details (like how this would never ever actually happen to anyone) allowed me to enjoy the crap out of *Audrey, Wait!*

What I expected from *Audrey, Wait!*: Predictable rise to fame story. Audrey would get über popular and famous, it would go to her head, she'd lose sight of who she was alienating friends and family along the way before inevitably having the bubble burst and coming back down to earth as a decent human being everyone loves.

What I got from *Audrey, Wait!*: Something completely different and unexpected. Woohoo!

*Audrey, Wait!* is so refreshing not because it's another book about music, but because it's a book about people who love music. Not those who play it, but those who make it a part of every moment of their day. Those who feel the beat in every iota of their being and connect with a song more deeply than they ever could with most people. Those who post collages of their favorite bands, spend hours making the perfect playlist, and will spend their last \$30 on concert tickets to see this band they love open for a band everyone else loves. I was that music lover in high school, and that is the Audrey we see in these pages.

For Audrey, music is life, but when her ex's band skyrockets to mass popularity with a song about, well, her, she suddenly can't even trust the bandwags. Instead of embracing her adjacent fame, Audrey retreats--somewhat by force, and somewhat by choice--unable to live her life normally when there were so many out there pegging her as a role model or Muse.

I absolutely adored Audrey and her music obsession, and also loved the fact that here we had an introverted narrator that was still so fun loving. It's odd how rare that combo appears in writing, it seems you're either extroverted or shy and brooding. I really appreciated Audrey's personality as a type that exists a lot in the real world, but not so much in books. It is possible to be introverted and still be an incredibly strong and fearless person!

And of course, one of the things that made Audrey such a strong lead were her relationships with others. I love that even though her world comes crashing down around her ears as a result of her ex, Evan, she never gets catty with him. She realizes that he was upset at the time, and that things just happened to fall the way they did. Her best friend Victoria and Victoria's boyfriend Jonah are absolutely wonderful and supportive friends, it was so refreshing to see such a great girl friendship in YA that didn't get ruined when guys became

involved (even if Victoria does let the ancillary fame get to her a bit). Audrey's "nerdy, but in that really cute Rivers-Cuomo-from-Weezer way" crush, James is so sweet and adorable he had me smiling constantly. But for me, it's Audrey's parents that really take the cake. They totally tie Mia's parents for best YA parents of the year. They know their kid and what works for her, they respect her choices, support her, but also work to keep her safe and set boundaries that she follows because she respects them right back. Love it!

Audrey, Wait! continually took turns I wasn't expecting, and I cannot express how completely refreshing that is for someone who reads enough to rarely be taken by surprise. The ending did seem fairly rushed to squeeze everything in and have a happy-go-lucky goodbye, but considering how low the cheese factor was compared to the incredibly high fun factor over all, I won't let that weigh too heavily on my enjoyment. Despite the ridiculous situation, Audrey and co. just came across as so real to me, landing Audrey, Wait! a place among my favorite contemps.

Original review posted at Bunbury in the Stacks.

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## **Morgan F says**

I need to clarify. This book is more of 4.5.

Girl meets boy. Girl dates boy. Girl breaks up with boy. Boy writes song about girl. Girl becomes famous.

You know, I really wasn't expecting this novel to be as unique as it was. It could have easily been annoying and cliched, but instead it was fresh and humorous. And when I say humorous, I mean it. This book was laugh-out-loud funny. So I advise you not to read this book in public. We don't want the person sitting next to you on that 5 hour flight to think you are on some new medication.

Audrey was such a refreshing voice. She was witty, vibrant, and confident. I loved her sarcasm and tone. Most authors try to impose personality traits on their two-dimensional characters, but Audrey lived it up. Instead of the author telling me Audrey liked music, she made me believe. This girl goes to concerts, blows out speakers, jams out to mix tapes, and discusses her fave bands. I also like how Audrey isn't obsessive about her appearance or too self-deprecating. Anything we know about her we find out from other characters in passing.

All the rest of the cast was equally enjoyable. I would want to sit at *their* table at lunch. Audrey and Victoria(like the Queen) had a very believable friendship, filled with inside jokes and shared interests. I even had a thing for Jonah, who was the perfect best friend's boyfriend. James was adorable (but not in a little brother kind of way) and I wish there were more redheaded love interests out there in bookdom. Even the parents were awesome in their obliviousness and almost-hipitude.

The writing was very, very enjoyable. While some of it seemed over-the-top, it never seemed like Benway was trying too hard. The humor was just effortless. My favorite line would have to be this: "'I'm having a life crisis. Pass me the Teddy Grahams.' He handed over the box. 'All that's left are little paws and legs at the bottom of the box,' he said. 'It's a massacre.'" The writing just rang true for me. And yes, that means there is cussing and sexual/drug references, so if you have a problem with that, then don't read this one.

Overall, a great debut from an author I'm expecting will be a star in the land of YA literature.

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## Amanda says

What to do when you come to the realization that, behind the pretty packaging, your boyfriend is basically a self-centered, narcissistic asshole? If you have a brain in your head, you dump him, of course. And that is precisely what Audrey does. Normally that would be the end of the story--except that Audrey's boyfriend has his own band, a modicum of talent, the inspiration for the ultimate break-up song, and a record executive coming to see his gig on the same night that Audrey dumps him. And so, out of Mr. Shallow's pain and anguish, the song, *Audrey, Wait!* is born, and it's not long before it's sweeping the country and racing up the charts. Suddenly, Audrey is famous and not coping so well.

At first, I thought the idea that Audrey would become so famous for simply inspiring a hit song was a little over the top, but when I look around at the number of people who have become famous for doing absolutely nothing other than allowing cameras to follow them through their every waking moment, I had to admit that it's certainly possible. I like that Benway portrays Audrey realistically, bumbling through her new found fame and making mistakes that exacerbate the situation (such as talking to a reporter who doesn't register sarcasm, finding out a video of her making out with another singer has gone viral, allowing her fame to alienate her from her friends, etc.). I also enjoyed the fact that Audrey and her friends seem authentic. They're sarcastic and intelligent without becoming unbelievably hip, à la Nick and Norah of the infamous Infinite Playlist. There are quite a few funny moments, a fairly predictable romance (but, alas, such is the familiar landscape that is young adult lit), and an intelligent, funny, and strong female character. However, what really sold me on the whole concept is Benway's message about the pitfalls of fame--a message teenagers need to hear in a celebrity crazed, electronic media-based society. All in all, this makes for a fairly enjoyable read for adults, but a winning recipe for the target audience (I say this with authority as my female students love this book).

Cross posted at [This Insignificant Cinder](#)

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## Keertana says

Rating: 3.5 Stars

When I first came across *Audrey, Wait!* in my library, I dismissed it as being a rather silly novel. You see, I can be a very snobbish reader. Unless a book screams "DEPTH!" to me, I usually walk away from it. Well, then I joined GoodReads and virtually all my friends have loved this novel - even those who aren't fans of contemporary literature. As such, I couldn't help but pay my library another visit and check out the excruciatingly bright hardcover edition of this book. I kept expecting myself to be similarly blown away by this novel as my friends were, but I wasn't. Nevertheless, I do have to admit that *Audrey, Wait!* made me laugh at a time in my life when I wanted to cry and the amount of time I spent immersed in this fun-filled world is one I don't regret. Not one single itty-bitty bit.

*Audrey, Wait!* is the simple story of a girl who breaks up with her boyfriend. Or, not so simply. When your boyfriend is in a band, he might just end up writing a song about you. And that song might just gain attention and publicity. And that might just make *you* famous as well. Which, in turn, might just make falling in love with the cute guy at the ice cream shop you work at a lot more public than it needs to be. Or going for a

concert. Or even sleeping in class. Needless to say, Audrey's life is turned upside down by the sudden fame she receives from breaking up with her boyfriend and if you thought being a celebrity was fun, Audrey will make you think again.

One of the best aspects of *Audrey, Wait!* is its narration. From the first page itself, Audrey grabs you and doesn't allow you to put down her story. Not only is she spunky and sarcastic, but her dialogue and life story is surprisingly relate-able and real. From the deep bond between Audrey and her best friend, Victoria, to the adorable crush she has on James, and the understanding relationship she maintains with her parents, this book never let me stop smiling. In fact, I blame this book for making my cheeks hurt so much by the end of it. If that wasn't good enough, though, Audrey loves music and the lyrics dispersed throughout the chapter titles made me grin even more. *Audrey, Wait!* is also a surprisingly solid representation of paparazzi and the culture of today's world, which I most definitely appreciated. It wasn't too over-done, like the crazy paparazzi of many movies, but it wasn't subtle either, striking a good balance.

Yet, unfortunately, *Audrey, Wait!* really does lack depth. Audrey not only gets along perfectly well with her parents, but any issues she has with Victoria and James are swiftly dealt with as well. Audrey's school nemesis is seen as "that girl" that exists in every novel to make the protagonist appear a little better and with the exception of the multi-faceted and flawed personalities of Audrey and Victoria, not much else proved that this novel was worth the hype it received. Thus, my rating is based solely on my thorough enjoyment of this tale and the fact that, every once in awhile, we all need a good laugh. For the next time you find yourself in that kind of mood, pick up *Audrey, Wait!* It'll have you in splits of laughter within pages. Just see if it doesn't.

You can read this review and more on my blog, [Ivy Book Bindings](#).

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## **Tina says**

### **Original post at One More Page**

I needed a break from all the dystopia and somewhat depressing books I've been reading lately, and *Audrey, Wait!* was the perfect one. I found this book while I was browsing in the Fully Booked and bought it impulsively -- and now it's one of the best impulse buys I've ever made.

Audrey is your normal teenage girl who likes music, goes to concerts, works for an ice cream store, hangs out with her best friend and has a musician boyfriend. However, the musician boyfriend bit is slowly getting old and Audrey knew that she had to break up with him. After much support and list-making with her best friend Victoria, she finally breaks up with Evan in the most gentle way she knows how, and plans on moving on quietly. Nothing spectacular about that, right?

Except for two things. Evan finally found the inspiration to write a song about Audrey after she broke up with him, and they played it on their gig the next night where this bigwig producer was watching. And the song was good. Very good.

Wait, that was *three* things. Or four.

Audrey's normal life gets turned upside down as The Song becomes a hit. Pretty soon Audrey gets mobbed by fans, chased by paparazzi, kissed by wannabe rockstars hoping for inspiration, and basically loses every

bit of privacy she knows. All the while Audrey can't wait for everything to die down -- the question is, will it ever?

*Audrey, Wait!* is such a fun book. I love contemporary YA, but I do get sick of having to deal with characters who have dysfunctional relationships with their families, or have body image issues, or friendship issues or any other kind of issues. Sure, no one is perfectly adjusted even in books, but it's nice to read about someone who has a good life who just happened to make the right decision at the wrong time. That's Audrey. She's probably the most normal character I have read in contemporary YA ever. She has good friends, good grades and even a friendly relationship with her parents. It's comforting to read something like this because it shows that you don't need to be a messed up protagonist to have a story -- sometimes normal in extraordinary situations would work just as fine. Audrey's voice was clear and distinct, and she often breaks the fourth wall in the story since she's basically re-telling it to us (Example, on page 241: *"He, Victoria and my parents were the only one who had my cell number, because someone -- and if you're reading this, I will find you, oh yes, I will -- hacked into my phone and got the number..."*). She's snarky most of the time, but she's also lovable and I can't help but sympathize with her as the story went on.

Audrey is the type of person I want to be, but if I can't be her, I want to have a best friend like Victoria. She's one of the smart and memorable best friend characters I have ever read. More often than not, best friend characters are always watered down in order for the main character to shine. In *Audrey, Wait!*, Victoria has her own character without stealing the spotlight from Audrey. Her personality shone just as bright as Audrey did, and even if she seemed a bit selfish at times through out the story, I understood her well when she and Audrey finally fought (oh that is not a spoiler -- you know best friends often fight in contemporary YA novels). Favorite Victoria moment: when she brought coffee and a hammer to Audrey after being caught on video with the lead singer of the Lolitas. Coffee for the bad morning and hammer to smash the CDs to smithereens. If that is not a real best friend, then I don't know what is. :)

The love interests are also very fleshed out. Evan disappears to be on tour soon after they play the hit song, but his presence was never gone in the story. He is the so-called antagonist that redeemed himself in the end without glossing over his flaws and offenses. James, on the other hand, is a sweet and sensitive guy that took Audrey (and me) by surprise. He's one of those male YA characters that you can't help but like, and maybe even have a crush on? :P He isn't my type of guy, but I thought he was a cute and well-characterized male character.

*Audrey, Wait!* is peppered with so much fun dialogue that I can't help but giggle at a lot of parts (best example in my Teaser Tuesday post yesterday). Unlike other contemporary YA novels, this one takes stuff from real life and adds fictional elements to it so it's easier to relate to. It's a novel with music at its center so don't be surprised when you see artists such as Taking Back Sunday, Fall Out Boy, Belle & Sebastian, REM and the like on chapter titles and within the story. References to Lindsay Lohan and other Hollywood celebrities are there, too, as well as other pop culture, like Harry Potter (*"Get over here and talk to her. She's a reporter, not a Dementor."* - p. 57). The author knows how to make scenes sentimental/poignant and funny at the same time -- another example:

"I just want you to know that, okay? I don't want you to be scared that I can't handle his. I mean, you know, whatever *this* is." He waved his hand to indicate the general insanity that had taken over my life.

His heart was beating even louder now, and I closed my eyes and tried to calm my pulse down to match his. "I'm not scared of that," I murmured, and I wasn't. "That doesn't scare me."

"What *does* scare you?"

I thought for a minute, tapping my index finger against my bottom lip. "Sock puppets."

"Excuse me?"

"They're horrifying."

See what I mean?

I think the only "flaw" this novel may have is the sheer unbelievability of the story. Okay, not so much I guess, because what happened to Audrey is possible. I'm just not sure if it can happen in real life in the scale that happened to Audrey. But I guess us normal girls can pick up a few lessons from this story: if you value your privacy,\* don't date someone who will write a song about you when you break up and make it big after. Or at least, don't break up with them before a big gig. Or something to that effect. *Audrey, Wait!* shows us that normal non-rockstar guys are still the best. :)

This is a novel with a happy ending, but not without any difficulties getting there, so expect a ride through fame, fights and a realistic resolution -- as realistic as Audrey's situation can be, that is. This is a fun and crazy read, and while it's not something I will profess my love for, it's a book that will definitely be on my favorites. :)

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## Christina says

The biggest problem with *Audrey, Wait!* is that the whole plot revolves around a so-called catchy, chart-topping song of the same name. Since we can't hear the song, we can only rely on Audrey's word and the words of the song, which are, honestly, pretty lame. While there are popular songs out there with lame lyrics, it's usually because of the beat, the music. But because we can't hear the song in *Audrey, Wait!*, all I could think was that "*Audrey, Wait!*" was quite possibly the dumbest song ever, and therefore the book leaned that way too. In addition, Audrey was pretty annoying and she apologizes way, way too much.

However, I do understand why it's a pretty popular book amongst the YA crowd; it definitely has the angst and romance most preteens are looking for and the whole thrill of your boyfriend writing a hit song about you probably is quite a few girls' dream. But skip every other page and you won't be lost at all. Overall, the book reminds me of "*Nick and Nora's Infinite Playlist*" -- due to all of the music references -- meets "*Princess Diaries*" -- the whole "but I don't want to be famous!" thing.

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