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Seventh grader Jeremy Miner has a girl problem. Or, more accurately, a girls problem. Four hundred and seventy-five of them. That's how many girls attend his school, St. Edith's Academy.

Jeremy is the only boy left after the school's brief experiment in coeducation. And he needs to get out. His mom won't let him transfer, so Jeremy takes matters into his own hands: He's going to get expelled.

Together with his best friend, Claudia, Jeremy unleashes a series of hilarious pranks in hopes that he'll get kicked out with minimum damage to his permanent record. But when his stunts start to backfire, Jeremy has to decide whom he's willing to knock down on his way out the door.

The Last Boy at St. Edith's Details

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Author : Lee Gjertsen Malone

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From Reader Review The Last Boy at St. Edith's for online ebook

Ki-Wing says

I was lucky to receive THE LAST BOY AT ST. EDITH'S as part of an ARC tour... that was the easy part. The hard part was getting a chance to read it. My grade-schooler at home kept stealing this book!

Not only did he devour the book in one sitting, he returned to reread it slowly, and then persisted in reading over my shoulder. Finally, I was able to finish while he was in school.

I was drawn to Malone's exploration of middle school friendships and her portrayal of a boy coming to see more clearly what is around him. My son was drawn to the pranks and the premise. We had the funnest discussion about what he would do if he were the only boy in a school of girls. All thumbs are up!

Melanie says

It's not often that you find a middle grade with heart that also has real, honest-to-goodness, laugh out loud humor, but THE LAST BOY AT ST. EDITH'S is just that.

This is the story of seventh grader Jeremy Miner, who has a girl problem: namely, he is the last boy at an all-girls school. St. Edith's is a great school, offering a top-notch education that might set Jeremy up for scholarships in the future...but being surrounded by girls all day is just too much. When the only other boy at St. Edith's transfers out, Jeremy becomes determined to get out too, even if that means getting kicked out.

And the key to getting kicked out is getting in trouble--which Jeremy tries to do ever so hilariously through a series of pranks. Along the way, he learns more about his friends Claudia and Emily, and makes a few surprising discoveries about what it truly means to belong.

THE LAST BOY AT ST. EDITH'S is an excellent choice for young readers who like humor and a quick pace, and for fans of Andrew Smith's WINGER.

Andrew Brumbach says

This book was too much fun to put down. Great writing, great characters, tons of heart. Malone has captured the ethos of middle school, and delivered a funny, unpredictable plot in the process. The interactions between Jeremy, Claudia, Anna, and Emily were completely believable and enthralling. The characters were likable and flawed and I was rooting for all of them. If there are more adventures ahead for Jeremy and Co., sign me up.

Kathy MacMillan says

I received an advance reading copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

First off, I have to say that I had to battle my ten-year-old son for this ARC. He'd seen a blurb about the book months ago, and had been asking weekly when we would get it. So once that ARC came into the house, he grabbed it and wouldn't let go until he was done. He loved the pranks, the characters, and pretty much everything about it.

So did I. Seventh-grader Jeremy finds himself in the unfortunate position of being the only male remains of a failed attempt by St. Edith's to go coed - and his mom won't let him transfer, because the only reason they can afford the school is the scholarship money she receives as an employee of St. Edith's. So Jeremy is determined to get himself expelled. And he knows just who to ask for help: his wild friend Claudia, mastermind of the school's Film Club and violator of every point of the school's dress code. Jeremy sets some guidelines for the pranks, though: no one can get hurt, and they can't steal or damage anything. (The image of Jeremy assiduously labeling each of the garden gnomes he steals with the addresses of their owners cracks me up.) But soon the pranks get out of hand, as pranks often do, and not only do property and people get hurt, but Jeremy's sister and her friends are blamed for his actions. When the big decisions have to be made, Jeremy starts to realize that maybe being the only boy in a sea of girls isn't so bad after all.

Jeremy is a likeable, believable character. He's one of those boys who isn't particularly bothered to be surrounded by girls - but who feels like he ought to be. His friends are equally well-drawn, particularly Claudia, the bold prankster with a heart of gold, and Emily, the literal girl next door who's just waiting for Jeremy to notice how compatible they are. *THE LAST BOY AT ST. EDITH'S* is a middle grade read with lots of fun and lots of heart.

Abby Cooper says

What a fun, unique, well-written book! Fast-paced *THE LAST BOY OF ST. EDITH'S* really hooked me and didn't let go until the end. It truly flowed from first page to last. I was really impressed with the writing style and can't wait for more from Malone!

Jeremy, the main character, is incredibly relatable. He struggles with decisions, makes mistakes, and tries to navigate challenging situations with family, friends, and school the best he knows how. He doesn't always handle things perfectly, but who does? I think kids will root for Jeremy as though he's one of their friends. I know I did. A great read!

Robin Yardi says

The Last Boy at St. Edith's is peopled with a rich, fabulously flawed, and funny cast of middle school characters. Jeremy, the LAST boy at a now all girls' school, is surrounded by kids who seem to know exactly who they are. His friend Claudia is brash, passionate about film, and fearless. Emily is studious, quietly territorial, and whatever she's afraid of, she keeps carefully hidden. But Jeremy flounders in St. Edith's sea of baby blue plaid, struggling to know how he can learn to be a young man... when he's surrounded by hundreds of girls.

When Jeremy embarks on a crusade to get kicked out of St. Edith's by pulling an escalating series of pranks, everything he cares about is put into peril. His friendships. His family. His integrity.

The Last Boy at St. Edith's delivers an entertaining prank driven plot while touching on issues of gender, fitting in, and messing up with deft and deadpan humor.

Casey Lyall says

Please pull up a chair and let me tell you all about how much I loved The Last Boy at St. Edith's!

First of all, the plot was totally fun and original. Jeremy Miner is the last boy left at an all-girls school (for reasons) and he's determined to get himself kicked out by unleashing a series of pranks. Hilariousness ensues...as well as a number of unexpected side effects.

Lee Malone has crafted a great group of believable and relatable characters. I loved the relationships between Jeremy and his two best friends, Claudia and Emily. I also quite enjoyed the dynamic between him and his older sister, Rachel.

It was funny, too, with plenty of laugh-out-loud moments. (I want to see Claudia's movie in real life!)

The Last Boy at St. Edith's is a thoroughly enjoyable read. I was right there with Jeremy through all of his escapades - cringing when things went south and grinning over a satisfying end.

I give it 5 out of 5 garden gnomes. (Now you have to read it in order to get that joke.)

S.M. Parker says

No wonder Jeremy wants out of his school. He's the last remaining boy. He's literally surrounded by girls—at school, and at home. And what better way to get kicked out of school than pull some major pranks? The premise of this book is spectacular and the hijinks too adorable. Malone's dialogue made me legit laugh out loud and her characters were so special and fully formed (even when they were being totally clueless). This MG debut flawlessly deals with issues of identity, first crushes, friendship, family and loyalty. Plus, it's hilarious.

I was fortunate enough to receive an ARC of this book in exchange for an honest review, and I'm so glad I did!

Lois Sepahban says

I was lucky to read an advanced copy of THE LAST BOY AT ST. EDITH'S.

After a failed experiment to turn St. Edith's all-girls school co-ed, Jeremy Miner is the last boy left. He has friends, but being surrounded by girls, he wants a more normal life. He hatches a plan to get himself kicked out of school so that his mom will be forced to let him enroll at a different school.

I enjoyed this book, and I particularly appreciated Jeremy's character arc. Over the course of the story he

learns that what he thinks he wants might not be what he needs.

Monica Tesler says

I was fortunate to read an advance reviewer copy of *The Last Boy at St. Edith's*. After a failed attempt to go co-ed, St. Edith's School has only one boy left, and that's our hero, Jeremy. Not thrilled to be the last boy standing, Jeremy is on a mission to get kicked out by executing outrageous pranks. This book is impeccably executed, engaging, funny, and smart. The middle school characters, particularly Jeremy, Claudia, and Emily, come alive on the page. The relationships between the characters are pitch perfect and entirely believable. The author has thought through every detail of these characters and their lives, and it's all there on the page, making the reading experience immersive, almost tangible. This is a fun, fast, thought-provoking read that I will definitely recommend to both kids and adults.

Jennifer says

I had the opportunity to read an ARC of *The Last Boy at St. Edith's*.

Jeremy Miner is surrounded by girls. Girls at home, girls at school, girls everywhere. As the very last boy at St. Edith's, he is sick of girls. His mom is somewhat sympathetic but St. Edith's is a great school, and Jeremy gets to go there for free. So Jeremy decides to get kicked out with the help of his good friend Claudia. How? Pranks. The most epic pranks that St. Edith's has ever seen.

This book was so fun and thought-provoking and great. I loved the inventive pranks (and kids are going to have such a fun time reading about them). What I loved most of all were the characters - especially Emily and Claudia, two of Jeremy's friends. What awesome girls! And that's what Jeremy doesn't realize - there are all these amazing young women around him.

This novel is smart and would be great to use in a class for a novel study or lit group. So much great discussion could be had. I highly recommend you pick up *The Last Boy at St. Edith's* by Lee Gjersten Malone! I loved it!

Ruth Lehrer says

I was lucky enough to get an ARC of this 2016 gem. Want some fun? This is the book for you. *The Last Boy at St. Edith's* is clever and funny and full of heart. The characters were so real they walked off the page and made you root for them, even when they were doing things you knew they shouldn't. In addition, Malone provides us with lots of food for thought about gender roles and friendship. Loved the fictional western Massachusetts towns.

Jenn Bishop says

Girls, girls, girls. No matter where he turns, Jeremy Miner is surrounded by them. At home, it's mom and his

two sisters. And then all day at school it's . . . well, everyone. St. Edith's Academy, a former all-girls school, made an effort to go co-ed, but there's been a lot of attrition among their boy population and before Jeremy knows it, he's the last one. The absolute last male student at St. Edith's Academy. Yikes. Jeremy's determined to do something about this situation, and he finds his solution in an unlikely place: a series of escalating pranks that he commits along with one of his best female (well, duh) friends at St. Edith's, the spunky filmmaker Claudia. But as he seemingly gets closer to earning an expulsion from his school, Jeremy starts to second-guess his plan. Is the problem really St. Edith's? Or could this place be where he really belongs?

As the survivor of an all-girls education (okay, just high school, but still, that was intense!), I totally related to Jeremy. Being immersed in a sea of girls is not always easy. Sometimes, you just miss having close friends of both genders!

Debut author Lee Gjertsen Malone's novel is just plain fun. Jeremy is such a winsome protagonist, and I totally fell for his group of girl friends at St. Edith's. Jeremy's cluelessness about his friend/neighbor Emily's crush on him was entirely realistic, and will especially ring true to middle school readers. (It was also heartbreakingly real for all us girls out there that totally found ourselves in Emily's shoes at that age. ::Raises hand::) There's so much that Malone gets right about this fraught age, where the last thing you want is to be the one kid who stands out.

Victoria Coe says

I received an advance copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

The Last Boy at St. Edith's is incredibly fun and funny, and full of heart. Through genuine and very relatable characters, the story raises questions about gender roles, while at the same time emphasizing the importance of authentic friendship.

I laughed out loud throughout the book. The plot, which involves a series of hilarious pranks, is funny on its own. But add in the main character Jeremy's insecurities and cluelessness, and this is a book kids won't be able to resist!

Dee says

I had the chance to read an ARC of The Last Boy at St. Edith's.

This book is so many wonderful things rolled into one. Jeremy is the last boy at a school full of girls. The story is about him dealing with all the challenges this unique situation brings and exploring his friendships- the ones he has, the ones he's avoided, and the ones he's wishing for. I loved the interactions between the characters and the humor that's infused throughout the book.

We get to go along with a character who is so sure of what he wants, but we also see the struggle as he tries to sort through what he's feeling. I loved the events that happen along the way, and how each one forces him to look at things a little bit differently.

This is so well-written, heartwarming, fun, engaging, and funny. Kids (and adults) will relate to the characters and will want to keep turning the pages to see what happens next!
