

The Boyfriend List: 15 Guys, 11 Shrink Appointments, 4 Ceramic Frogs and Me, Ruby Oliver (Ruby Oliver Quartet)

By E. Lockhart

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From E. Lockhart, author of the highly acclaimed, *New York Times* bestseller *We Were Liars*, which John Green called "utterly unforgettable," comes *The Boyfriend List*, the first book in the uproarious and heartwarming Ruby Oliver novels.

Ruby Oliver is 15 and has a shrink. She knows it's unusual, but give her a break—she's had a rough 10 days. In the past 10 days she:

lost her boyfriend (#13 on the list),

lost her best friend (Kim),

lost all her other friends (Nora, Cricket),

did something suspicious with a boy (#10),

did something advanced with a boy (#15),

had an argument with a boy (#14),

drank her first beer (someone handed it to her),

got caught by her mom (ag!),

had a panic attack (scary),

lost a lacrosse game (she's the goalie),

failed a math test (she'll make it up),


hurt Meghan's feelings (even though they aren't really friends),

became a social outcast (no one to sit with at lunch)

and had graffiti written about her in the girls' bathroom (who knows what was in the boys'!?!).

But don't worry—Ruby lives to tell the tale. And make more lists.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Siegfried makes a believable 15-year-old narrator as she slips into the role of Ruby Oliver, a spirited girl struggling with identity and self-esteem after suffering the kind of social crisis that sets high schoolers reeling. Ruby's boyfriend of six months, Jackson, has dumped her in favor of her best friend, Kim. Ruby's resulting panic attacks land her in the office of a shrink, Dr. Z, and part of her therapy involves writing a complete list of the boys with whom she's ever had a crush, kiss, relationship or "little any-kind-of-anything." As listeners learn about each entry on the boyfriend list (including lots of authentic-sounding dialogue and asides, which appear in the book as footnotes to the list), they hear the Jackson drama and every painful, truthful detail about the clique land mines Ruby must maneuver when it comes to her former friends, to whom she's now a "leper." Via Siegfried's sharp delivery and expert teen inflection, one can almost envision the eye-rolling and other gestures that might accompany Ruby's smart-aleck, I can't-believe-this-humiliating-thing-is-happening-to-me attitude. Ages 12-up. (Mar.)

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From School Library Journal

Grade 9 Up—Fifteen-year-old Ruby "Roo" Oliver is having a tough year at Tate Prep. Through a series of social debacles, she loses her best friends, her boyfriend, her dignity, and the respect of her fellow Taters in less than two weeks' time. Following nearly half a dozen panic attacks, Roo starts to spend some quality time on Doctor Z.'s couch, where she makes (at her shrink's urging) a list of boyfriends past and present, official and unofficial, and starts on a journey of self-discovery. Along the way, Ruby begins to think about patterns in her life and ways that she might be more like her mother than she'd care to admit. Fortunately, Ruby survives her traumatic exile and lives to tell the tale. Lockhart has created a fun character in the spirit of Louise Rennison's Georgia Nicholson and Helen Fielding's Bridget Jones. Ruby is a likable and empathetic character whose quirks and behaviors will strike a chord with many readers. The snappy dialogue makes this story a winner, though the language and discussion of sexually charged situations are frank. The scenarios all ring true, as does Roo's inner voice. Though the novel starts off a bit slowly, and it takes a while to get used to the funny footnotes, it gains speed, and the comedy of errors will have readers laughing out loud. Teens will soon be listing the reasons they want another Ruby adventure.—*Elaine Baran Black, Gwinnett County Public Library, Lawrenceville, GA*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 8-11. Fifteen-year-old Ruby Oliver's life is full of challenges. She lives on a houseboat; attends private school--on scholarship; and her boyfriend has dumped her for her best friend. Nothing, however, is worse than having her "boyfriend list" (homework from her shrink) passed around school and being branded a "slut." It's her therapy, during which she examines current and past events--including feelings about boys--that helps put Ruby back on track, allowing her to gain insight into her relationships and the importance of self-worth. Ruby's character is sympathetic, witty, and sometimes frustrating, and it shines through her introspective, occasionally funny narrative, which incorporates such familiar teen issues as coping with peer pressure and a broken heart. The time line is somewhat confusing, and the abundant, often lengthy footnoted asides occasionally distract from the story's flow, but readers will find many of Ruby's experiences familiar, and they'll appreciate the story as a lively, often entertaining read. *Shelle Rosenfeld*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

John Malcolm:

This book untitled The Boyfriend List: 15 Guys, 11 Shrink Appointments, 4 Ceramic Frogs and Me, Ruby Oliver (Ruby Oliver Quartet) to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, that is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy that book in the book retail outlet or you can order it by way of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to you personally to past this e-book from your list.

Chris Barrentine:

Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book specially book entitled The Boyfriend List: 15 Guys, 11 Shrink Appointments, 4 Ceramic Frogs and Me, Ruby Oliver (Ruby Oliver Quartet) your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe not known for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a publication then become one type conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get just before. The The Boyfriend List: 15 Guys, 11 Shrink Appointments, 4 Ceramic Frogs and Me, Ruby Oliver (Ruby Oliver Quartet) giving you a different experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful info for your better life on this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Christopher Burnham:

The book untitled The Boyfriend List: 15 Guys, 11 Shrink Appointments, 4 Ceramic Frogs and Me, Ruby Oliver (Ruby Oliver Quartet) contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains the woman idea with easy way. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read the item. The book was compiled by famous author. The author gives you in the new period of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can please read on your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book throughout anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can start their official web-site and also order it. Have a nice examine.

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