



## Ten Things We Did (and Probably Shouldn't Have)

*Sarah Mlynowski*

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## **Ten Things We Did (and Probably Shouldn't Have) Sarah Mlynowski**

Praised by *New York Times* bestselling author Lauren Myracle as “hilarious, moving and flat-out fun,” and *Kirkus* as a “pitch-perfect rendering...of the teen experience,” *Ten Things We Did (and Probably Shouldn't Have)* has captured the hearts of critics and readers alike.

Fans of Sarah Dessen, E. Lockhart, and Maureen Johnson will love this hilarious and heartwarming tale of a girl on her own for the first time.

If given the opportunity, what sixteen-year-old wouldn’t jump at the chance to move in with a friend and live parent-free? Although maybe “opportunity” isn’t the right word, since April had to tell her dad a tiny little untruth to make it happen (see #1: “Lied to Our Parents”). But she and her housemate Vi are totally responsible and able to take care of themselves. How they ended up “Skipping School” (#3), “Buying a Hot Tub” (#4), and, um, “Harboring a Fugitive” (#7) is a mystery to them.

To get through the year, April will have to juggle a love triangle, learn to do her own laundry, and accept that her carefully constructed world just might be falling apart . . . one thing-she-shouldn’t-have-done at a time.

## **Ten Things We Did (and Probably Shouldn't Have) Details**

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Author : Sarah Mlynowski

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## From Reader Review Ten Things We Did (and Probably Shouldn't Have) for online ebook

### Tatiana says

2.5 stars

A very light, mindless, relaxing read.

April's dad is planning to move to another state in the middle of her junior high year. Using some creative negotiating (=lying) April convinces him to let her stay with her best friend Vi to finish school, with no parental supervision. Partying, drinking, skipping school and hooking up ensue...

Contrary to the blurb, I didn't find Ten Things We Did to be particularly funny. Or daring. Or romantic. Or profound.

The story tries to touch upon the subject of parental abandonment and broken families, but mostly it is about sex. Probably 75% of the book is dedicated to worrying about losing virginity, planning to lose virginity, angsting after losing virginity and having sex, sex, sex. There is a lot of it here. With the amount of teen sex in Ten Things We Did you'd think it will be handled with some insight and sensitivity, but alas one of the main characters (view spoiler). There must be a moral here somewhere, but I am not really on board with it. But at least she (view spoiler), so I guess I should be thankful for that.

However, I did devour this novel within one day. It should count for something. Rating rounded up to 3 stars for the book's compulsive readability.

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### Jess (Gone with the Words) says

Read this review on my blog! --> Ten Things We Did (and Probably Shouldn't Have) by Sarah Mlynowski

I really love this book! It was so funny and bittersweet and different that I wanted to do something different for it. So here it goes....

#### Ten Things I Loved (and you will love too)

1. Mermaid impressions while drunk.
2. Best friends who will lie to your parents for you.
3. Paying in installments.
4. The Hula.
5. Brothers. Especially ones named Hudson and Dean.
6. Donut.
7. Babysitters with model good looks.
8. Lightning.
9. Authors who write about birth control options in their books.
10. Authors who write about the possible consequences of having unprotected sex into their books.

#### Ten Things I Didn't Love (and wanted to punch in the face) \*

1. People who find your friends obnoxious.
2. People who are so insecure they have to hook up with somebody because they think you might be doing it too.
3. People who get overwhelmed by the possibility of meaning so much to somebody they end up letting things happen at a beach with someone else.
4. People who have to be reminded when Valentine's Day is.
5. People who aren't good enough sports to participate in demeaning boy pageants at parties.
6. People who are insecure and accuse you of flirting.
7. People who are jealous and call you a slut.
8. People who lie.
9. People who give you The Chlam.
10. People named Noah.

*\*Disclaimer: I don't really consider this list spoilery because I had a bad feeling about said People, person, whatever, throughout the whole book and think that if you read it, you'd agree with me on this. If you feel I've ruined this book for you in any way, please accept my most sincere apologies. :)*

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### **Beáta says**

Noah = dumbass

EDIT: ehm toto je moje najlajkovanejsie review.

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### **aria [dear darling reader] says**

I could sum up this book in one word: HILARIOUS!

I had a whole lot of fun reading this.

It was crazy.

Everything they did was crazy.

Maybe that was the reason I had fun reading it.

I didn't do the things they did when I was their age.

I wouldn't do it even if I could.

You guys must be curious why I found this book so entertaining.

April's dad just blurred out one day that they were going to move to Ohio.

Devastated April didn't want to move to Ohio.

She didn't want to leave her friends.

Her school.

She didn't want to leave Noah, her \*cough\* boyfriend.

She and friend Vi planned a scheme so that she could stay in Connecticut.

Funny thing was it actually worked!

April get to stay at Vi's house.

No parents.

No rules.

Fat bank account.

No curfew. (There is but daddy is not going to find out because no one was going to tell him! Hahaha.)

Party galore.

Drinking spree.

Alone time with bf.

These girls get to do whatever they wanted without adult supervision.

Fun right?

It is.

Until something happened and she gets hurt.

Things weren't that fun anymore.

This book tackles teenage struggles.

\* FAMILY!

April may seem to be okay with it but she was pretty distraught with the split-up of her parents.

She felt betrayed by both her mother and her father.

Her friends and boyfriend cough\*, Noah were the ones who were there to get her through the tough divorce of her parents.

She felt attached to her friends because of that.

\* SEX!

SEX!

And more SEX!

It was funny how April and Vi planned how they were going to lose their virginity.

It's weird reading about it like that maybe because here in the Philippines we are a bit conservative regarding those things.

We do not talk about SEX if we can avoid it.

But for these kids, it was a pretty big deal for them.

I mean yeah it's a big deal but not THAT big of a deal.

I may not be comfortable with what they did but it is reality.

There are a lot of teens struggling with the same thing: When they were going to do it.

\*LYING!

No matter how hard you think you could hide the truth, it would come out in the end.

You can't get away with lying.

Fate has a way of letting the truth out.

April and Vi lied but this is not for them.

Someone else was lying in this book and I would let you guys guess who that f\*ck is.

The characters were believable.

I liked April.

She's made stupid decisions. (A lot of them)

She was immature. (Planning sex was immaturish for me)

She was disrespectful towards her mom. (I understand why though)

Why did I like her?

Because she learned from those mistakes that she made.

Also she was very funny.

I liked Vi too.

She was just like my best friend.

Marissa was the opposite of Vi.

Marissa and Vi balances April which was good.  
Both of them were good friends.  
Hudson and Dean were cool.  
I liked them immediately too.  
Especially Hudson.  
Who would have known that that was his secret?  
I'm impressed!  
Then there's the boyfriend.  
\*Cough\*  
I don't even want to talk about Noah.  
F\*cker!  
Let's skip him shall we?  
The characters were like real people.  
They were flawed.  
I LOVE IT!

The author's writing style was superb.  
I loved it.  
Especially the little titles during back flashes.  
I will definitely be reading more books with your name on it Ms. Mlynowski!

Ten Things we Did (and Probably Shouldn't Have) is definitely a favorite!  
It maybe a funny novel but then it also has lessons that you could learn from.  
There was more to this book that kids planning on when to have sex or lying to their parents.

#### MORAL LESSON?

Before you decide to have SEX with someone, make sure he/she is clean.

Hahahaha.

Just kidding.

I gave this a 5 because I had a blast reading it.  
It made me laugh, it made me smile.  
Hahaha.  
I just love it.

I recommend it for anyone who wants a good laugh. :D

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#### OceMei Belikova♥ says

one point for the cover,  
one point for the title,  
and two points for the nice story.

This story gave a lot of knowledges to me, such as :

**1. Don't easily give away your virginity to everyone.**

I don't know why but me and the book have truly different preception in the meaning of virginity and sex. I vote for sex after marriage. For me, losing our virginity means to give the best to our husband in the first night after we get married, not before marriage, or the worst is we gave it to our boyfriend who we don't certain whether he's goin to be our husband or not. Maybe people will say I'm old school or what, but still for me, lose your virginity to your husband is million thousand better than to ur boyfriend or a friend of yours.

The affect of losing ur V to ur bf :

- *u get pregnant.*
- *ur bf isn't ready for having a baby, so he wants you to get an abortion*
- *u get abortion coz of no choice, and it means that you kill ur own baby without leave him/her an option whether he/she wants to live or not.*
- *like the case of this story, the boyfriend got drunk and slept with someone else who apparently had a disease. then April, the main character who doesn't know about the sleep-with-someone-else made sex with Noah, she got pills and condoms, but one day they run out condom, so they just did it. The result : April's 100% suffered from Chlamydia.*

Here some infos about Chlamydia :

*Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) caused by the bacteria Chlamydia trachomatis. When transmitted through sexual contact, the bacteria can infect the urinary and reproductive organs.*

*Chlamydia can be treated with antibiotics but often causes no symptoms, so someone can be infected without even knowing it. Untreated chlamydial infections can lead to more serious health problems, such as infertility, so it's important for sexually active teens to be screened for chlamydia at least yearly by a health care provider. It's also important for them to take the precautions to prevent chlamydia, and if it's suspected, to seek treatment as soon as possible.*

### **Symptoms**

*In many cases, chlamydia causes only mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. So an infection can last for weeks or months before it is discovered.*

*In females, chlamydia symptoms can include:*

- \* *vaginal irritation*
- \* *vaginal discharge*
- \* *lower abdominal pain*
- \* *burning feeling with urination*

*Just like in females, chlamydia may be completely without symptoms in males. When present in males, chlamydia symptoms can include discharge from the tip of the penis and a burning feeling during urination. Untreated infections can lead to epididymitis, an inflammation of the coiled tubes in the back of the testicles. This can result in testicular swelling, pain, and even infertility.*

#source from google.

**2. "You can run but you can't hide forever." Same meaning as "There are no lies that stay in the shadow forever."**

*April is lying too much to her parents, esp her dad. Lies won't give you happiness. Once you start to tell lie and nobody noticed it, you'll easily tell lies to everyone eversince. But you don't realize the effect if one day people found out the truth. They mad and upset, and you die. So don't lie too much. It's naive if ppl said they never told any lies, but many lies will bring you to chaos.*

*Actually there are many things that I wanted to share with, but better read it by yourself, bet you won't be bored coz the story is well-written and well-described.^^*

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### **Arlene says**

#### **Rating Clarification: 3.5 Stars**

*No one is perfect, but we all do the best we can. I guess you have to forgive when you can, move on when you can't, and love your family and friends for who they are instead of punishing them for who they aren't.*

4 girls, 3 guys, 1 cat, 1 hula tub, 1 crazy school year and 0 parents = 10 things April did and probably shouldn't have. Despite this story being highly unrealistic, I found it engaging and pretty funny. There were times where I wanted April to just get caught for her deception, but somewhere around the middle of the story, I found myself rooting her on and hoping she'd get away with absolutely everything she did, but probably shouldn't have. I guess that's because I could clearly see how she was growing up, albeit it was while making bad decision after bad decision, but in the end she figured out a way to take care of herself. I liked that.

This book is filled with some pretty awesome secondary characters. I even started to like Lucy, despite her weird, stalkerish tendencies. She should have been a shoe in for *most annoying character*, but nope, not at all. April, Vi, Marissa and Lucy all blended well together and each did such ridiculous things, I couldn't help but enjoy their moments. Dean, Hudson and Noah played some pretty interesting parts as well, and I have to say Hudson was hands down my favorite for obvious reasons. It was pretty funny to hear his "big" secret and it just made him more adorable in the end. I won't say much about Dean or Noah because I don't want to spoil anything, but they definitely played their parts well.

The plot, as I mentioned before, involved a highly unlikely circumstance, but in the end it worked quite well. Mlynowski covered some important YA topics such as love, loss, intimacy and responsibility. However, I'd say this book is for the older YA crowd because of some of the scenes that involve some heavy decisions.

Overall, I enjoyed it and I continue to be a fan of Sarah Mlynowski for her fun and light approach to writing a teenage girl's struggle to just try and figure it all out.

Thanks to Nic for sending it all the way from down under with a beautiful bookmark and big hugs and thanks to Crystal for touring this book with the Street Corner. XD

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### **Cheyla says**

This book had its good points and its bad points. I definitely do NOT recommend for kids under 15, and I'm

saying that as a 14 year old.

#### MY SYNOPSIS:

What is this book about? Well, love, sure. There's romance. But it's not just that-- there's more to it than just girl-likes-boy-but-girl-has-boyfriend.

April is faced with a crisis when her Dad announces that they're moving to Cleveland. She's got everything she's ever wanted where she already lives. A sweet boyfriend, great friends-- which is why in desperation she says she wants to live with her friend Vi.

One problem. Vi's mom isn't going to be there. But does her dad need to know that? Pssh! Naw!

Together Vi and April establish a genius plan to avoid getting caught. And before they know it, they have the world to themselves. No parents, no plans, to rules. Well, okay, there are a few. To be ignored.

#### WHAT I LIKED

First things first, the dialogue. Witty and well-written. I laughed out loud several times during the book. Also, Mlynowski created characters that you can really love. I fell for one of the main characters. Not Hudson, no (you may be surprised) but I actually really liked Dean. He was cute, and funny, even if he was a little perverted. I liked the entire plot. I liked the emotion, (view spoiler).

#### WHAT I DIDN'T LIKE

There were a lot of sexual references in this book. And, yes, I understand that it is a *teen* book and all, but I still think it's not necessary to bring the subject up every two pages. There were no explicit scenes, and for that I commend the author. But there was still a LOT of referencing. I mean yeah, it had to build it up for the end. But, hey, I guess that's just not my cup of tea.

#### Final Rating

Was it my favorite book? I guess no, but I'll remember it and keep it up there on the list. Would I recommend it? Not to anyone who might be offended easily. Would I read again? Maybe in a while.

#### Did I enjoy it?

Hells to the yes :)

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#### Alyssa says

I so eagerly awaited *Ten Things We Did*. And honestly, I was more than a little disappointed. Mlynowski gave the teenagers in her book a bad reputation, and I know for sure that I won't be picking up anything else of hers any time soon.

I get that this book was supposed to be funny, what with its unrealistic situations and one-liners. I get where Mlynowski was going, but the way she approached her subject made me disgusted and appalled.

Before I get to April, who wins the Stupidest Character of the Year award, can I just ask you one question: what kind of parent would willingly leave their daughter in a different state – never mind a different country

– with a parent of whom you never once console with face to face? Would it not get suspicious if the only way to contact this temporary “guardian” was by email, something anybody could be privy to? I think the characters in this book should be checked for DPS (check out the link for more information!) because as often as they chatted with April on the phone or via email, they never really were *there* for her.

April. Yuck. She’s just like the month she was named after: chilly and rainy. April was so, so cold. I could muster no sympathy for her. She lied to everyone she loved! She did any and everything just to be like everyone else! She was stupid, was ignorant, and oblivious to the real world. She said things that would realistically, well, destroy the other person. You know the mean girl in movies? Yeah, that was her “roommate,” Vi. And you know said mean girl’s following puppy? Picture April.

I would have enjoyed the book more than one character was enjoyable – the only one I actually could stand reading about was Dean, Vi’s best friend and boytoy. Vi was as dense as April and Marisa, the one girl who was supposed to illicit a type of sweetness to the reader...she was nothing more than a piece of paper, for how thin her characterization was.

I felt like these characters got it off too easy. How could they screw around (literately!) all semester and never get caught or in trouble or manage to mess up? If that aspect was supposed to be the *gotcha, isn’t it funny?* moment, the book crashed and burned. Even with the ending that I totally saw coming – for the record – I still believe that *TEN THINGS WE DID* was a complete misconception of the reality teenagers face today.

There wasn’t a plot to this, which is why I’m talking about the characters. Basically, this girl goes to live with her parentless friend because she’s too chicken to move, and the story revolves around parties – and oddly enough, no schooling, even though I thought the whole point of the book was for April to stay caught up in school – and terribly written sex. The writing style didn’t do it for me, either, as I hated the little captions that implanted themselves almost every time Mlynowski started a new paragraph. The constant flashbacks to – gasp – five seconds before the scene started were uncool and not, in any way, funny or appealing or needed.

I will mention that I appreciated that Mlynowski incorporated the whole aspect of STIs into her world. I haven’t read many YAs – if any – that tackle consequences of sex aside from pregnancy, and although I think the author could have handled the topic better, I’m glad it was at least addressed.

Although I’m grateful to the wonderful HarperCollinsCA for gifting me with this ARC, I cannot say that I will be reading anything else of Mlynowski’s in the near future.

**TEN THINGS WE DID** (and probably shouldn’t have) by Sarah Mlynowski

Audience: 13+ (drug use, sexual contact, questionable content, questionable language, excessive alcohol)

Rating: 1.5/5

Recommend?: If you like comedy, or are just in the mood for some light reading, then *TEN THINGS* is for you.

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### **Zoë says**

Hahaha! This book was so cheesy and kind of all over the place, but I had a great time reading it! It's a quick read (especially the second half) and I laughed out loud several times!

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### Aj the Ravenous Reader says

It's okay- a quick read. It's almost the same as watching a teen flick. The writing is plain and direct. It's just like reading the diary of a 16 year old rich teenage girl. The narrator says anything she wants to say and there are several times I got really annoyed over her silly repetitions but I guess it's just but appropriate for the character so I have no huge qualms about the writing style. I liked it just enough and I think it's adequately enjoyable for its genre.

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### Crystal says

I don't know what to really say about this one. I liked it, but I really wanted so much more. I think the beginning and the end were great, but the middle needed more "oh I am so going to be dead when my Dad finds out" stuff. I guess it was just more realistic than I thought it would be which is not necessarily a bad thing mind you.

The story is about April, a junior in High School who just finds out that her Dad, with whom she lives with, has decided to move with his new wife to another state. Understandably April is upset and refuses to go, but how can she stay without her parents? So begins the funny adventure of what happens when 2 teenage girls get to live together without parental supervision unbeknown to their parents. Well correction Vi's Mom knows that they are staying alone but April's dad does not and if he finds out she will have hell to pay. Their adventures were funny and I did crack up at the fake emails messages that their parents were sending back and forth, but again I wanted more. In my head I thought about the movie The Hangover and it was not on the caliber. But still good none the less.

The one part that really bothered me was the end how April's dad, I am going to try and stay spoiler free here, discarded her wishes without a second thought after being written as a put your kids first kind of dad. I didn't see that reaction coming at all and it really kinda ticked me off. I figured out the whole April and Noah situation pretty quickly even though I didn't guess all of it, but that is okay I think the author intended it to be that way.

Anyway I think the book was a fun fluff type of read and I will probably look into more of her books.

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### Emily May says

#### Someone should burn this cover

Let's just say the very first thing that needs to be said: UK publishers, what the hell have you done to this book? What happened to the cute girl/boy chick-lit cover and, more importantly, what happened to the original title? The actual title - Ten Things We Did (and Probably Shouldn't Have) - conveys the whole "ooh, we're so *baaaaad* for doing that, but it sure was fun!" that this book is pretty much all about. This UK imposter title fails to hit the joke. And back to the cover... sometimes, yes, less can be more. But, in this case, less is just boring and white and scary pink and just really rather juvenile looking.

### **And then there's the story...**

Okay. I think I would have rated this novel higher if the big, what-on-earth clanger hadn't been dropped half-way through the last chapter. It wasn't even a smooth clanger. It was a sloppy clanger. And kind of silly. Plus, it ruined what I had built up in my mind as being the whole point behind this book. I'd formed some idea along the way of what message I believed Sarah Mlynowski was trying to send about sex and relationships and the message that I thought was being sent I could understand and appreciate. Then she took her last chapter and scribbled over what the rest of the novel had been built upon.

Sorry, I'm talking in riddles so I don't give too much away, but if you're not going to read this book: (view spoiler)

Maybe it's because I don't have any kids or because I have an insanely laid back mother, but I've always preferred teen books that have a positive attitude towards sex. You know, "be wild, be young, have fun but always use a condom". I'm a strong believer that most teenagers will have sex if they want to and can get away with it, regardless of what their parents say, it's human nature. So I think that instead of spouting "you will get HIV and you will get pregnant and **you will DIE!!!**" it's better to just give advice on contraception and let them get on with it.

For the largest part of Ten Things We Shouldn't Have Done there was a very relaxed attitude towards sex and a full run through of all the possible methods of contraception (t'was highly informative). Bravo. Very good. So, here's me thinking that I get it, I understand that Sarah Mlynowski is on the same wavelength as me when it comes to teenagers having sex and whatnot... well, talk about mixed messages. Shit hits the fan, things go wrong, you might be getting some idea of what probably happens, yes? Or maybe you read the spoiler.

### **Oh, and hang on, your boyfriend cheats on you with another girl and *she's* the whore???**

Yeah, so, is the author's *actual* message that you shouldn't have sex if you're a teen? I am clueless. Also, mild slut-shaming is still slut-shaming... give me a break girlies and grow some ovaries asap.

Though I will say that I think I'm in the minority (again) about the humour in this book. Well, I laughed. Come on, some parts were worth a little chuckle or two at least. I did appreciate the humour and I enjoyed the exploration of different relationships going on. I liked Dean, he was funny, sexy and a nice guy, with a bit more focus given to him he could be a potential Dave-the-laugh (and we all love Dave).

I liked it. Ten Things We Shouldn't Have Done is a pleasant, mindless beach-read kind of book. I have issues with it but I can't deny that I found it entertaining.

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### **Sita says**

I actually put off reading this book for a while, I now know why. My subconscious mind was telling me it was not worth my time, but silly me I decided to read it. This book is okay, if you want to read it go ahead, if you were considering reading it and are sitting on the fence read it and don't read it.

My advice, don't. Not worth it, it wasn't a bad book, but it wasn't a good book either. It was mediocre.

### **What the book was about:**

The book started with one of the last scenes, after a party, when her parents are coming home. The book then goes back around 3 months where we learn April, the main character's father and step-mom are moving away, they plan to take her with them, this leads to her convincing them to let her stay with her (crazy) friend Vi. While her father and stepmother are away April does many things, stuff she probably shouldn't have done, hence the title. (view spoiler)

### **What I thought of it:**

The book was okay; sure, it kept me entertained, except there were many slow areas in the book. The characters were good and all and I could imagine most of them as living breathing people. But the main character, I don't know why, but she just annoyed me.

Most of the time I felt like=

There was just something in the way she acted and spoke that annoyed me. In saying that a lot of the side characters like Lucy, Vi and Hudson were believable and likeable enough.

The story it self had flashbacks throughout the book,

saying stuff like 3 months ago, ect. I didn't mind this and we got to learn about the character, except towards the end it really started to annoy me, so much, so that I found myself skipping those parts.

I wouldn't say to any one don't read this, but I also wouldn't recommend it to anyone. It just wasn't that great. It was more okay, the story, the characters, they were all mediocre, none of them really jumped out at me. And by the end I found myself not caring about the characters,

I was reading just so I knew how it ended.

**Overall...** it was okay, not bad or good, just okay and defiantly only worth a three and that is only because the book kept me interested enough to keep reading.

[image error]

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**Shannon says**

Wat een geweldig boek! Ik heb me geen moment verveeld toen ik het boek aan het lezen was. Het is allemaal wel wat onrealistisch, maar dat maakt het boek misschien juist zo leuk. Ik kan me alleen niet voorstellen dat mijn ouders me zo zouden behandelen op deze leeftijd.

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**Carlos De Eguiluz says**

Un libro que leí hace años, olvidé que lo hice, lo compré recientemente y no me di cuenta de que ya lo había escudriñado hasta que llegué al epílogo.

Una novela más, pero con un argumento muy interesante.

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