



The Only Alien on the Planet

By Kristen Randle



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They've all gotten used to him. The one who never speaks. The one who never smiles. They all say he's retarded. So, though his name is Smitty, they call him "The Alien." And from the moment Ginny sees him she knows she has to meet him. Because she's been feeling weird since she and her family moved from the West Coast. She knows what its like to feel alone. Ginny decides to become his friend.

But Smitty is very different from anyone Ginny has ever known. And she soon realizes that reaching out to him might destroy him. Because in his world, there is no love. No pain. No room for anything--or anyone. Until Ginny comes along...

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The Only Alien on the Planet By Kristen Randle Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

New student Ginny is intrigued by the handsome alien in her homeroom?no, this is not a science fiction novel. Smitty?real name Michael?is known to his schoolmates as "The Alien" because of his affectless appearance and complete silence. Soon, Ginny and Smitty's longtime protector, Caulder, team up to try and crack his shell. They get much more than they bargain for when they drag him along on old-movie outings; as a none-too-subtle plot device, the first turns out to be *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*, the second, *East of Eden*. Smitty walks out of both, for it turns out that he was almost fatally abused by his older brother, who also convinced him that he would die if he spoke to anyone. With the help of Ginny, Caulder and a wise and sympathetic therapist, Smitty emerges from this psychological curse, and he and Ginny even begin a tentative romantic relationship. Randle (*Why Did Grandma Have to Die?*) unfortunately builds her otherwise well-crafted novel around an uncharacteristic response to abuse. Under his pain, Smitty is totally honest and caring?a very romantic figure, but not one likely to be found in the real world. Ages 12-up.

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 8-12. Ginny Christianson had been a happy person: "happy, cheerful, easygoing, reasonably popular even." When her family suddenly relocates and a beloved older brother leaves for college at the same time--well, let's just say Ginny is a "displaced person." As life manages to go on, and fun, caring new friends begin to fill the gap, a strange boy at school captures Ginny's attention. Smitty Tibbs is a brilliant, handsome boy who never speaks. He is known as the Alien and lives in total isolation from emotion and communication--tolerated by the other students but pretty much left alone. Meanwhile, Ginny's new friend Caulder has long been fascinated with Smitty and is determined to break through to him. Together Caulder and Ginny take Smitty in and begin to probe at the barriers he has thrown up, the abuse he has suffered, and the resulting silence into which he's retreated. Ginny's deft and engaging narration reveals a delightful and totally believable teen. The otherwise strongly drawn characters sometimes delve into dialogue that sounds like social-work parlance, but we can forgive because the overall impact of this psychological novel is so powerful. *Anne O'Malley*

Review

This, too, appeared some time ago but also deserves ongoing mention as an excellent story. A boy who never speaks but who participates silently in his classes receives newfound attention from new girl in school Ginny, who finds him fascinating. When Ginny and her new friend Caulder move beyond distant relationships to probe underlying emotions, they release a cauldron of feelings which once unlocked may prove impossible to reverse. Randle creates a sensitive, believable story of sibling abuse. Camelot Jane Yolen, Editor Philomel 0-399-22540-4 \$19. -- *Midwest Book Review*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carlos Garcia:

Do you one of people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained within the straightway, hold on guys this specific aren't like that. This *The Only Alien on the Planet* book is readable by you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the details here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without

leaving actually decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer involving The Only Alien on the Planet content conveys prospect easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the content but it just different by means of it. So , do you nonetheless thinking The Only Alien on the Planet is not loveable to be your top list reading book?

Russell Belcher:

Reading a book tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With reading through you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Together with book everyone in this world could share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire all their reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the story that share in the ebooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors on earth always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some study before they write to the book. One of them is this The Only Alien on the Planet.

Jeremy Robinson:

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Wendell Holloway:

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