

The Only Alien on the Planet

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New town. New school. New friends. It was difficult for Ginny at first, but now her senior year isn't looking too grim and she can finally feel normal. That is, until she sees him in her English class. He has never spoken a word to anyone. He moves through each day without making eye contact. His name is Smitty Tibbs, but everyone calls him the Alien. Ginny is convinced there's more to him than what people are saying. But as she tries to break open his rough exterior, she realizes that her altruistic attempts might be doing more harm than good...

This is a very underrated book, and it is one of my favorites books from when I was younger. The anti-bullying message of the story is brilliantly executed. It also raised awareness that situations of bullying need to be treated carefully, or else you could do more harm than good. The build-up to the "big reveal" was expertly handled. The main character, Ginny, was also very relatable to the reader, which I greatly appreciated. The only thing I disliked about this book was that it was too short!

I would recommend this book for ages 12+ for mild violence/threatening situations. This book would be a great gift to anybody interested in realistic fiction and heartwarming endings.

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