

Reading Map

How Not to be Popular by Jennifer Ziegler

- How Not to be Popular
 - Fan Booktrailer: <http://youtu.be/uc3mhC4q7g8>
- Jennifer Ziegler
 - Jennifer is a writer, speaker, mother, spicy food lover, movie buff, and fan of all things wacky-yet-real. She is inspired by “Practically everything. Some ideas come from my own experiences, or those of close friends or relatives. Some come from items I’ve read in the newspaper. Some even come from dreams. Then there are times when I’m in a situation and think, “What if x had happened instead of y?””
 - <http://www.jenniferziegler.net/>
 - Other books by Ziegler:
 - Sass and Serendipity (September 2012)
 - Alpha Dog (2011)
 - Interview on Youtube.com:
 - <http://youtu.be/EMh8ylseHqk>
- Genre
 - Teen Chic Lit is more complicated than you’d think! While it can be quite fun and light hearted, they do deal with difficult issues that come while growing up – that first boyfriend, frenemies, sports, or finding their passion. These books show teens that it is okay to: “be goofy, clumsy or, better yet, witty” (Alderdice)! You’ll find a lot of fun books for teen girls in this genre. Have fun exploring!
- Reviews
 - "Zippy and full of wit, Ziegler’s work is engaging, touching, and full of laughs." - Rob Thomas, author of Rat Saw God and creator of Veronica Mars
 - “Maggie and Jack’s relationship rings true, adding an irresistible sincerity to both characters that allows Maggie’s self-discovery and growth to unfold naturally. Thoughtful and fun.”—Kirkus Reviews
 - Gr 9 Up-Smarting from her recent breakup and on the road to Austin, TX, with her hippie parents who have decided, yet again, to relocate, Sugar Magnolia-known as Maggie-crafts an extreme plan to avoid emotional pain the next time she has to move. Instead of endearing herself to the local popular clique-a technique she has perfected as part of her family's vagabond lifestyle-she decides to shun friendship and popularity in her new town. To that end, she comes to school in bizarre castoffs from her parents' thrift shop and forges a casual relationship with a group of school outcasts. When the success of a group project leads the teen to recognize her growing feelings of warmth toward those misfits, she has to decide whether or not to make a dramatic statement equivalent to social suicide. Ziegler's novel is fun but somewhat fantastic and concludes with a rather made-for-TV-movie school assembly scene. The book has heart, however, and cliché set pieces aside (Maggie's antifashion statements become school-wide trends and her success leads to the takedown of the queen bee cheerleader), it has a sweet story of friendship at its core. A low current of romance hums beneath the surface; that Ziegler's story does not conclude with a pat resolution of this tension adds an element of realism.-Amy S. Pattee, Simmons College, Boston (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.
 - Growing up with roving, hippie parents, Sugar Magnolia Dempsey (Maggie) has never lived in one place for more than eight months. She's tired of leaving friends (and

boyfriends) behind, so when her parents announce another move, this time to Austin, Texas, she vows to dodge heartbreak: If no one likes me and I don't like anyone, then I won't have anyone to lose. Reversing her usual tactics to join the in crowd, she begins Operation Avoid Friends, wearing bizarre outfits culled from her dad's resale shop and joining Helping Hands, a good-works club that attracts well-intentioned nerds. Ziegler brings a fresh, comedic sensibility to a familiar story of clique warfare and self-discovery by using unforgettable supporting characters and Maggie's first-person narration, which balances laugh-out-loud, sardonic commentary with earnest reflections that will directly connect with teens. Suggest this high-spirited, original twist on chick-lit formula romance to fans of Dyan Sheldon's *Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen* (1999) and Jaclyn Moriarty's *The Year of Secret Assignments* (2004).--Engberg, Gillian Copyright 2008 Booklist

- How Not to be Popular Read-alikes
 - [Catching Jordan](#) by [Miranda Kenneally](#)
 - [Lola and the Boy Next Door](#) by [Stephanie Perkins](#)
 - [What Happened to Goodbye](#) by [Sarah Dessen](#)
 - [If I Stay](#) by [Gayle Forman](#)
 - [Audrey, Wait!](#) by [Robin Benway](#)
 - [My Most Excellent Year](#) by [Steve Kluger](#)
 - [Beauty Queens](#) by [Libba Bray](#)
 - [Girl, 15, Charming but Insane](#) by [Sue Limb](#)
 - [Dairy Queen](#) by [Catherine Murdock](#)
 - [The Sweet, Terrible, Glorious Year I truly, Completely Lost It](#) by [Lisa Shanahan](#)
- Bullying
 - Fiction books about bullying in [PPLD's collection](#).
 - [The Graveyard Book](#) by Neil Gaiman
 - [The Chocolate War](#) by Robert Cormier
 - [By the time you read this, I'll be dead](#) by Julie Anne Peters
 - [Thirteen Reasons Why](#) by Jay Asher
 - [Leverage](#) by Joshua C. Cohen
 - [Just Flirt](#) by Laura Bowers
 - [The Mostly True Story of Jack](#) by Kelly Regan Barnhill
 - [The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian](#) by Sherman Alexie
 - [Scrawl](#) by Mark Shulman
 - [Bullyville](#) by Francine Prose
 - [101 ways to bug your friends and enemies](#) by Lee Wardlaw
 - Non-Fiction books about bullying in [PPLD's Collection](#) and books about [Cyberbullying](#) from PPLD's collection.
 - [Dear bully: 70 authors tell their stories](#)
 - [Cyberbullying](#) by Nick Hunter
 - [Living with peer pressure and bullying](#) by Thomas Paul Tarshis
 - [A smart kid's guide to online bullying](#) by David J. Jakubiak
 - [We Want You to Know: Kids Talk About Bullying](#) by Deborah Ellis
 - [Sexual harassment and bullying: a guide to keeping kids safe and holding schools accountable](#) by Susan Strauss
- Find [books](#) about Making Friends in our catalog
 - [30 days to finding and keeping sassy sidekicks and BFFs](#) by Clea Hantman

- The gifted teen survival guide: smart, sharp, and ready for (almost) anything by Judy Galbraith
- Jon & Jayne's guide to throwing, going to, and surviving parties by Jon Doe
- Jon & Jayne's guide to making friends & "getting" the guy (or girl) by Jon Doe
- On friendship: a book for teenagers by Kimberly Kirberger
- A smart girl's guide to boys by Nancy Holyoke
- Thriving at college by Alex Chediak
- Ask Elizabeth : real answers to everything you secretly wanted to ask about love, friends, your body-- and life in general by Elizabeth Berkley
- Fashion – Teen fiction books about fashion in PPLD's catalog
 - Your friend in fashion, Abby Shapiro by Amy Axelrod
 - The fashion disaster that changed my life by Lauren Myracle
 - Fashionistas by Chloe Walsh
 - The Allegra Biscotti Collection by Olivia Bennett
 - The time-traveling fashionista by Bianca Turetsky
 - Airhead by Meg Cabot
 - Change of a dress by Maya Gold
 - The Vinyl Princess by Yvonne Printz
 - Lola and the Boy Next Door by Stephanie Perkins
 - Must Love Black by Kelly McClymer
- Movies and TV
 - Zoolander
 - Legally Blond
 - Project Runway
 - Ugly Betty
 - Coco Chanel
 - The Devil Wears Prada
 - Confessions of a Shopaholic
- Database Resources
 - Subject Guide about Costumes and Fashion
 - Subject Guide about Debate Issues and Paper Topics
 - Resources about Bullying
- Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/ppldteen
- Created by Joanna Nelson, Teen Services Outreach Librarian for Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, CO