



# We Are Okay

By Nina LaCour

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**We Are Okay** By Nina LaCour

**From the award-winning author of *Hold Still* comes an achingly beautiful novel about grief and the enduring power of friendship.**

**A TODAY Show Must-Read Book**

**“Short, poetic and gorgeously written. . . . The world LaCour creates is fragile but profoundly humane.”** —*The New York Times Book Review*

**“A beautiful, devastating piece of art. . . . An extraordinary work.”** —*Bookpage*

**“So lonely and beautiful that I could hardly breathe. **This is a perfect book.**”**  
—Stephanie Perkins, bestselling author of *Anna and the French Kiss*

\* National Bestseller \*

*You go through life thinking there’s so much you need. . . . Until you leave with only your phone, your wallet, and a picture of your mother.*

Marin hasn’t spoken to anyone from her old life since the day she left everything behind. No one knows the truth about those final weeks. Not even her best friend Mabel. But even thousands of miles away from the California coast, at college in New York, Marin still feels the pull of the life and tragedy she’s tried to outrun. Now, months later, alone in an emptied dorm for winter break, Marin waits. Mabel is coming to visit and Marin will be forced to face everything that’s been left unsaid and finally confront the loneliness that has made a home in her heart.

An intimate whisper that packs an indelible punch, *We Are Okay* is Nina LaCour at her finest. This gorgeously crafted and achingly honest portrayal of grief will leave you urgent to reach across any distance to reconnect with the people you love.

**Praise for *We Are Okay***

**“As beautiful as the best memories, as sad as the best songs, as hopeful as your best dreams.”**

—Siobhan Vivian, bestselling author of *The Last Boy and Girl in the World*

“You can feel every peak and valley of Marin’s emotional journey on your skin, in your gut. **Beautifully written, heartfelt, and deeply real.**” —Adi Alsaid, author of *Never Always Sometimes* and *Let’s Get Lost*

“A beautiful, devastating piece of art. . . .The title hints at a happy ending, but the journey toward it passes through some of the darkest corners of the heart. **Be prepared to be gutted—and grateful.** *We Are Okay* is **an extraordinary work by an author who keeps redefining and elevating her genre.**” —*Bookpage*

“Nina LaCour treats her emotions so beautifully and with such empathy. Of course, **we’d expect nothing less from the stunning LaCour.**” —Bustle

★ “**Exquisite.**” —*Kirkus*, starred review

★ “LaCour paints a captivating depiction of loss, bewilderment, and emotional paralysis . . . **raw and beautiful.**” —*Booklist*, starred review

★ “Beautifully crafted . . . **A quietly moving, potent novel.**” —*School Library Journal*, starred review

★ “**A moving portrait of a girl struggling to rebound** after everything she’s known has been thrown into disarray.” —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★ “**Bittersweet and hopeful** . . . poetic and skillfully crafted.” —*Shelf Awareness*, starred review

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### **We Are Okay By Nina LaCour Bibliography**

- Rank: #16465 in Books
- Brand: Dutton Books for Young Readers
- Published on: 2017-02-14
- Released on: 2017-02-14
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.06" h x .85" w x 5.31" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 240 pages

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up—Her first semester of college behind her, Marin stays alone in the dorms over break, even with the threat of a snowstorm looming, rather than return to San Francisco, where bad memories lurk. Her best friend Mabel comes to stay with her, and over the next few days, Marin contemplates the events of last spring and summer and deals with her complicated relationship with Mabel. Slowly, readers learn more about Marin's life: the surfer mother who drowned when Marin was young, the father she never knew, the loving grandfather who raised her but whose concealed secrets kept a wall between them, and the painful events that sent Marin fleeing San Francisco. LaCour's use of settings is masterly: frigid and desolate upstate New York reflects Marin's alienation, while vibrant San Francisco evokes moments of joy. Though there's little action, with most of the writing devoted to Marin's memories, thoughts, and musings, the author's nuanced and sensitive depiction of the protagonist's complex and turbulent inner life makes for a rich narrative. Marin is a beautifully crafted character, and her voice is spot-on, conveying isolation, grief, and, eventually, hope. With hauntingly spare prose, the emphasis on the past, and references to gothic tales such as *The Turning of the Screw* and *Jane Eyre*, this is realistic fiction edged with the melancholy tinge of a ghost story. VERDICT A quietly moving, potent novel that will appeal to teens, especially fans of Laurie Halse Anderson and Sara Zarr.—Mahnaz Dar, School Library Journal

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“**A meditation on surviving grief**, *We Are Okay* is **short, poetic and gorgeously written**. . . . The power in this little book is in seeing Marin come out on the other side of loss, able to appreciate a beautiful yellow-glazed pottery bowl and other people’s kindnesses, and to understand that she might one day have a girlfriend and a future. The world LaCour creates is **fragile but profoundly humane.**” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“A beautiful, devastating piece of art. . . . The title hints at a happy ending, but the journey toward it passes through some of the darkest corners of the heart. **Be prepared to be gutted—and grateful.** *We Are Okay* is **an extraordinary work by an author who keeps redefining and elevating her genre.**” —*Bookpage*

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★ "**Bittersweet and hopeful** . . . poetic and skillfully crafted." —Shelf Awareness, starred review

Praise for Nina LaCour's *Everything Leads to You*:

★ "But underneath the privilege surges real pain, longing, and feeling in a way that makes it easy to imagine this novel as a film." —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

"This sensitive, multifaceted novel creates an authentic portrayal of the ups and downs of life. . . . An absorbing Hollywood read." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"This is summer love for the ages." —*Booklist*

Praise for *The Disenchantments*:

YALSA Best Books for Young Adults (2013); *Kirkus Best Teen Book of 2012*; *A Publishers Weekly Best Summer Book*

★ "This is about the inside and outside of characters, the past and future of their lives--and it is astonishing." —*Booklist*, starred review

"Quietly compelling . . . well rendered, bittersweet and hopeful." —*Los Angeles Times*

★ "A rich tapestry that will make readers confident that they are in the hands of a master storyteller. . . . Hauntingly beautiful." —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

"Each roadtripper has his or her own artistic way of chronicling the individual journeys they are on together, and that introspection draws the reader into this intimate novel." —*NPR.org*

★ "LaCour skillfully draws connections between art and life as she delves into the heart of her characters." —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★ "**Bittersweet and hopeful** . . . poetic and skillfully crafted." —Shelf Awareness, starred review

★ "LaCour's writing style is laid-back, low key, and totally on point." —*VOYA*, starred review

About the Author

**Nina LaCour** is the author of the widely acclaimed *Hold Still*, *The Disenchantments*, and *Everything Leads to You*. She is also the coauthor, with David Levithan of *You Know Me Well*. Formerly a bookseller and high school English teacher, she now writes and parents full time. A San Francisco Bay Area native, Nina lives

with her family in Martinez, California. [www.ninalacour.com](http://www.ninalacour.com)

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Harley Fabry:**

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a reserve. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled We Are Okay. Try to the actual book We Are Okay as your good friend. It means that it can being your friend when you truly feel alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than in the past. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you personally. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know everything by the book. So , let us make new experience and knowledge with this book.

#### **Michael Hill:**

The book We Are Okay make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable far more increase. Book can for being your best friend when you getting stress or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make looking at a book We Are Okay to get your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your capable, increase your knowledge about some or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like start and read a reserve We Are Okay. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this guide?

#### **Mandi Rice:**

The guide untitled We Are Okay is the publication that recommended to you to see. You can see the quality of the book content that will be shown to an individual. The language that author use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The author was did a lot of study when write the book, therefore the information that they share to your account is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of We Are Okay from the publisher to make you a lot more enjoy free time.

#### **Tim Vazquez:**

Book is one of source of expertise. We can add our knowledge from it. Not only for students but additionally native or citizen have to have book to know the change information of year in order to year. As we know those ebooks have many advantages. Beside many of us add our knowledge, also can bring us to around the world. From the book We Are Okay we can acquire more advantage. Don't someone to be creative people? For being creative person must like to read a book. Just choose the best book that ideal with your aim. Don't be doubt to change your life at this time book We Are Okay. You can more pleasing than now.

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