The Loneliest Girl in the Universe

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A surprising and gripping sci-fi thriller with a killer twist

The daughter of two astronauts, Romy Silvers is no stranger to life in space. But she never knew how isolating the universe could be until her parents' tragic deaths left her alone on The Infinity, a spaceship speeding away from Earth.

Romy tries to make the best of her lonely situation, but with only brief messages from her therapist on Earth to keep her company, she can't help but feel like something is missing. It seems like a dream come true when NASA alerts her that another ship. The Eternity, will be joining The Infinity.

Romy begins exchanging messages with J, the commander of The Eternity, and their friendship breathes new life into her world. But as The Eternity gets closer, Romy learns there's more to J's mission than she could have imagined. And suddenly, there are worse things than being alone....

Now nominated as a YALSA Quick Pick!

Lauren James

was born in 1992 and has a master's degree from the University of Nottingham, UK, where she studied chemistry and physics. The Loneliest Girl in the Universe was inspired by a physics calculation she was assigned at university. She lives in the West Midlands, UK, and is an Arts Council grant recipient. You can find her at www.laurenejames.co.uk."Gripping psychological thriller with a very relatable heroine." (The Bookseller)

"The Loneliest Girl in the Universe is shocking and brutal and has the best twist I've ever read. The sinister realism of Romy's situation is as terrifying as it is gripping, and I was rooting for her from beginning to end." (Alice Oseman, author of Radio Silence)

"Loneliest Girl just blew my mind." (John Moore, Waterstones Bookseller)

"Black Mirror-esque. A fantastic slow-build drama. Lauren James is a genius." (SFX Magazine)

"A tense, psychological thriller that will leave you gasping for air." (The Scotsman)

"A white-knuckle ride through space, science, love, and fandom. I was completely gripped from start to finish. I can't wait to see what Lauren James dreams up next!" (Sara Barnard, author of Beautiful Broken Things)

"Gripping and utterly addictive. An absolutely stellar read." (Maggie Harcourt, author of Unconventional)

"Whatever your expectations, The Loneliest Girl in the Universe willy defy them. Exceptionally clever storytelling from a talented, versatile writer." (Non Pratt, author of Trouble)

"This book moves at full throttle from beginning to end. Lauren James isn't just headed for the stars--she's already there." (Samantha Shannon, author of The Bone Season)

"A page-turning science-fiction thriller with some terrific twists." (Philip Reeve, author of

Mortal Engines) Other Books

The Book of Imaginary Beliefs, Earth is blue, fragile, light, and not a star. And we're part of it, not just living on it. Earth is a battle ground where all species constantly face an invisible war. And we're the main actor of growth, destruction, and peace. Someone's precious is someone else's garbage. Someone's interest is someone else's boredom. Someone's principle is someone else's violation. Someone's contentment is someone else's pressure. Someone's recipe for immunity is someone else's cause of death. Either you're the "someone" or the "someone else", it doesn't matter because confusion will always bounce back to you, no matter how far you've been running away from it. It's about facing an empty page each day, it's about waking up in the morning deciding to be alive, it's about choosing which mistakes to avoid, it's about considering what and who to ignore, it's about crafting a self that's truly your own, it's about faking a smile to cure the pain of others, it's about continuously moving forward because going back is never a choice, it's about looking at the blue sky and having small talks with it, it's about everything that feels small and unworthy, it's about becoming buoyant, never being trapped between other people's cacophonic agendas, it's about counting your breath.

2 2 2 2 . Earth is blue, fragile, light, and not a star."