



2015

# We Were Liars

Sydnee Burr

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

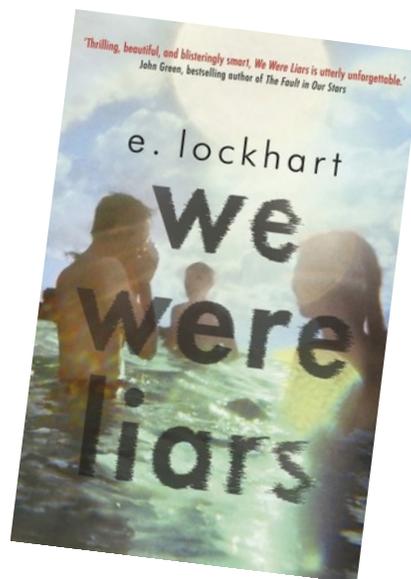
### BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Burr, Sydnee (2015) "We Were Liars," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 36 : Iss. 8 , Article 33.  
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol36/iss8/33>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact [scholarsarchive@byu.edu](mailto:scholarsarchive@byu.edu), [ellen\\_amatangelo@byu.edu](mailto:ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu).

# Book Review

**Title:** We Were Liars  
**Author:** Emily Lockhart  
**Reviewer:** Sydnee Burr  
**Publisher:** Delacorte Press  
**Publication Year:** 2014  
**ISBN:** 9780385741262  
**Number of Pages:** 240  
**Interest Level:** Young Adult  
**Rating:** Dependable



## Review

Three cousins and one friend, nicknamed The Liars, spend summer after summer splashing in the water on the Sinclair family island off the coast of South Carolina. Growing up in a world where money isn't an object, The Liars soon find out that possessions can take hold of hearts, and can turn sister against sister and father against daughter. At the end of a particularly argumentative summer where nearly all the adults were focused only on the estate and inheritance, The Liars, now fifteen, come up with a plan to remind everyone what is actually important. Cady, one of The Liars, has a swimming accident, loses her memory, and is torn from everyone who matters to her. The readers discover the road of pain pills, depression, and recovering from mental illness with Cady as she struggles to remember what actually happened at the end of that fateful summer.

The rich life of East Coast family money is alluring and intriguing. Trying to understand that world of privilege, servants and constant play is enticing. Readers soon realize, however, that money is not everything. An appreciation for the families, perfect or otherwise, that they have will be gained. And the dark world of mental illness will be traveled, luckily, only by proxy.