

Smith Public Library's

PARENT'S GUIDE

to what your kids are reading



Welcome parents! We are so glad you are interested in what your kids are reading. We have so many resources to help you decide what is best for your child. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at libinfo@wylitexas.gov or 972-516-6250.

Resources for parents:

Resource #1 – Our online catalog

The catalog provides more info than just whether or not an item is in. You can scan the record to look for information on content for any item in the collection.


Step 1: Search for a book on our library catalog.

Smith Public Library

×Search[Advanced Search](#)[Reading Levels](#)

Search Results for **ophelia after all** (Save Search)

Sort By Relevance



Book

☆☆☆☆☆

Ophelia after all (2022)
By Marie, Racquel
1 Available
Place Hold Add To List

Shelf Location

YA New Book - YA F MAR

Step 2: Click on the title and scroll down to see "subjects." You can also expand the summary to obtain more information on the title.



Book

☆☆☆☆☆

Details

All Copies

Reviews

Related

More Info

Total Holds: 0

Total Check Outs: 4

Including Renewals

MARC Record

Ophelia after all

by Marie, Racquel

[Place Hold](#)[Add To List](#)[Browse Virtual Shelf](#)

Summary

A teen girl navigates friendship drama, the end of high school, and discovering her queerness in Ophelia After All, a hilarious and heartfelt contemporary YA debut by author Racquel Marie.

Ophelia Rojas knows what she likes: her best friends, Cuban food, rose-gardening, and boys - way too many boys. Her friends and parents make fun of her endless stream of crushes, but Ophelia is a romantic ([read more](#))

Shelf Location at Main

Collection	Shelf Location	Status
YA New Book	YA F MAR	Checked In

Title

Ophelia after all / Racquel Marie.

Authors

Marie, Racquel, Author

Summary

Seventeen-year-old Ophelia Rojas, well known for her rose garden and her dramatic crushes on every boy in sight, begins to question her sexuality and sense of self when she starts to fall for cute, quiet Talia Sanchez in the weeks leading up to their high school prom and graduation.

Subjects

Roses -- Fiction
Friendship -- Fiction
Dating (Social customs) -- Fiction
High schools -- Fiction
Sexual orientation -- Fiction

Publication Info

New York : Feiwel and Friends, 2022.

Resource #2 - Journal Reviews from our online catalog

Publications like School Library Journal and Booklist review books and recommend age/grade levels. They also typically discuss content which may also be helpful. You can access these reviews by taking the following steps:

Step 1: After clicking on the title in our [library catalog](#), look for the "Reviews" tab on the menu listed on the left.



Book

☆☆☆☆☆

Details

All Copies

Reviews

Related

More Info

Ophelia after all

by Marie, Racquel

[Place Hold](#)[Add To List](#)[Browse Virtual Shelf](#)

Summary

A teen girl navigates friendship drama, the end of high school, and discovering her queerness in Ophelia After All, a hilarious and heartfelt contemporary YA debut by author Racquel Marie.


Ophelia Rojas knows what she likes: her best friends, Cuban food, rose-gardening, and boys - way too many boys. Her friends and parents make fun of her endless stream of crushes, but Ophelia is a romantic ([read more](#))

Shelf Location at Main

Collection	Shelf Location	Status
YA New Book	YA F MAR	Checked Out Due Back 07/26/2022

Step 2: Click on "See all professional reviews."

Results



Book

☆☆☆☆☆

Details

All Copies

Reviews

Related

More Info

Total Holds: 0

Total Check Outs: 4

Including Renewals

Ophelia after all
by Marie, Racquel

[Place Hold](#) [Add To List](#) [Browse Virtual Shelf](#)

▼ Editorial Reviews

Booklist ONLINE

Booklist December 17, 2021

High-school senior Ophelia Rojas' life is about to get complicated, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. Her fondness for Cuban food and her rose garden remains steadfast, but she's had boys on the brain far less than usual. Why? Her attention has been completely focused on her shy, pretty classmate, Talia Sanchez. This is a departure from Ophelia's usual [\(read more\)](#)

KR

Kirkus Reviews February 8, 2022

It's the end of senior year, and Ophelia Rojas is overwhelmed by the many changes charging through her life. Ophelia—17, hopeless romantic, fittingly flower-obsessed, Cuban and White—knows that the future is coming on fast. Soon she'll graduate and start college, moving away from parents she actually gets along with, best friends she shares everything with, [\(read more\)](#)

[See All Professional Reviews](#)

Step 3: Look for info on the contents of the book as well as age/grade level recommendations.

Booklist ONLINE

Booklist December 17, 2021

High-school senior Ophelia Rojas' life is about to get complicated, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. Her fondness for Cuban food and her rose garden remains steadfast, but she's had boys on the brain far less than usual. Why? Her attention has been completely focused on her shy, pretty classmate, Talia Sanchez. This is a departure from Ophelia's usual parade of boy-centered crushes—a running joke in her family—and she's not quite sure what it means. Beyond her romantic quandaries, Ophelia is also dealing with the slow disintegration of her once-solid friend group, and the secrets that surface as a result. Filled with realistic elements, this lovely coming-of-age story follows Ophelia as she explores her identity as well as the ups and downs of high school. Is she really the boy-crazy girl she thought, or is she queer? What's next for her love life and friendships after high school? This touching debut offers an emotional ride that readers will be happy to embark upon.

From Booklist, Copyright © American Library Association. Used with permission.

KR

Kirkus Reviews February 8, 2022

It's the end of senior year, and Ophelia Rojas is overwhelmed by the many changes charging through her life. Ophelia—17, hopeless romantic, fittingly flower-obsessed, Cuban and White—knows that the future is coming on fast. Soon she'll graduate and start college, moving away from parents she actually gets along with, best friends she shares everything with, and even her beloved rose garden. With so much of her life in flux, she wishes some routines would stay intact. Then Talia—Black and Puerto Rican, quietly intelligent—starts occupying all her thoughts, and she's not sure what that means. The novel is rich in secondary characters, all of whom learn and struggle together in a messy web of teenage friendships. There's Agatha (Black, plus-sized fashionista), on her way to design school and determined to succeed; Lindsay (White, popular as all get out), juggling the expectations of two lovestruck boys and an entire presumptuous world; Sammie (Pakistani American and Muslim, jester and boy next door), whose emotions are fast outgrowing his usual devil-may-care attitude; and Wesley (Korean American) and Zaquariah (Black), both artists navigating their own growing pains. Marie writes Ophelia and her friends through the hurdles and heartaches of senior spring with charm and insight, giving each character complexity and their varied cultural experiences the space, consideration, and depth they deserve. A feel-good and effortlessly inclusive coming-of-age story that deftly captures the aching tension of queer adolescence. (Fiction. 13-18) Copyright © Kirkus Reviews, used with permission.

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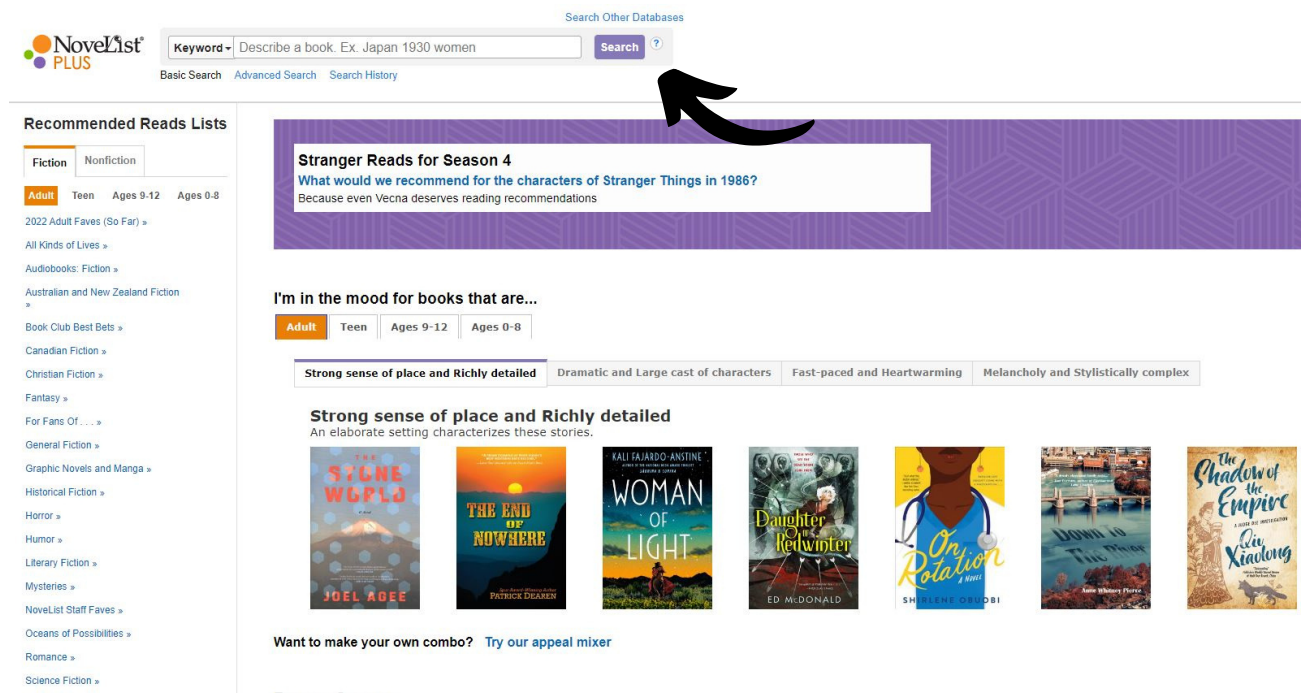
Publishers Weekly February 28, 2022

High school senior Ophelia Rojas, who's Cuban and white, is wild about the roses she grows, but to her friends and family, her salient trait is her "thirstiness": always having a crush on some boy or another. Which is why her sudden interest in quiet Afro-Puerto Rican classmate Talia Sanchez surprises and confuses her. Prom's in three weeks, and there's drama in Ophelia's friend group, which includes Black and white characters as well as teens of Korean and Pakistani descent, about who's going with whom. Savvy about the complexity of intersectional identity, debut author Marie packs a lot of action into those three weeks, and shows a wonderful knack for creating sweetly complex relationships—like Ophelia's bond with her parents as well as longtime bestie and neighbor Sammie. While there's plenty of information for teens grappling with sexuality—and inclusive portrayals, including asexual, bisexual, and pansexual representation—the book never feels like a manual: Ophelia, Talia, and their friends are fully human creations. Ages 14-up. Agent: Thao Le, Dijkstra Agency. (Feb.)

Resource #3 – Novelist

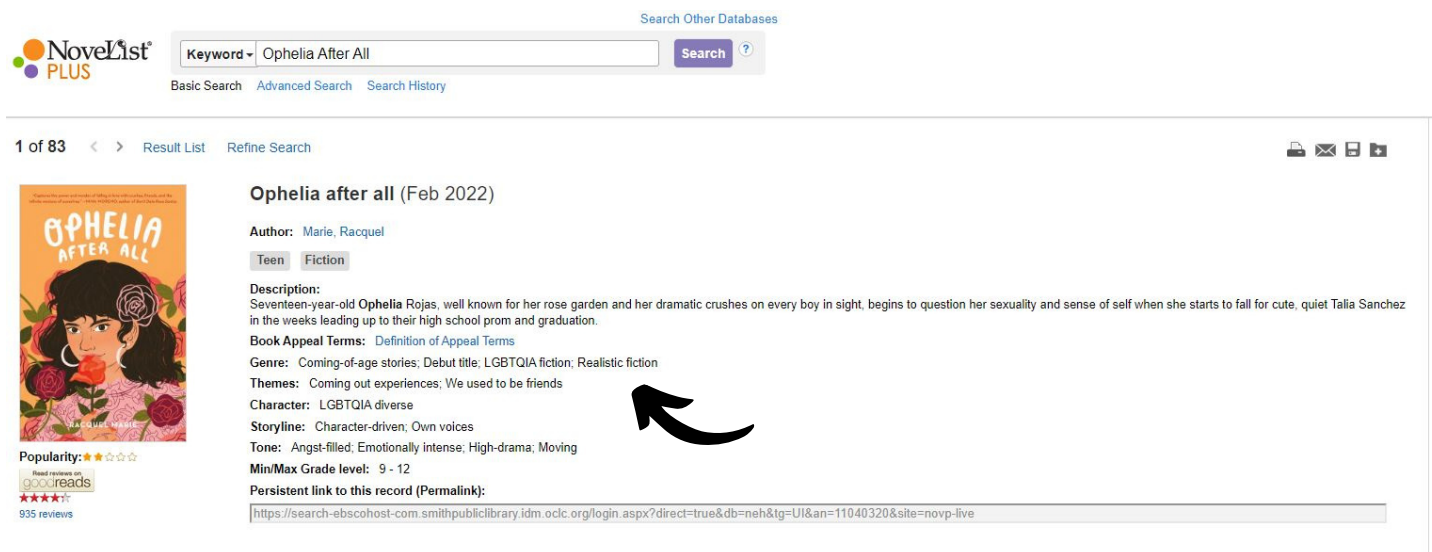
Novelist is a great resource for book recommendations and it is free with your library card. Start by going to [our site](#) to access the database.

Step 1: Search for the book in question.



The screenshot shows the Novelist Plus website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Describe a book. Ex. Japan 1930 women" and a "Search" button. A black arrow points to the "Search" button. Below the search bar, there are tabs for "Basic Search", "Advanced Search", and "Search History". On the left side, there is a "Recommended Reads Lists" section with a sidebar containing various categories like "Fiction", "Nonfiction", "Adult", "Teen", "Ages 9-12", and "Ages 0-8". The main content area features a purple banner for "Stranger Reads for Season 4" with the text "What would we recommend for the characters of Stranger Things in 1986? Because even Vecna deserves reading recommendations". Below this, there is a section titled "I'm in the mood for books that are..." with a "Strong sense of place and Richly detailed" filter selected. This filter leads to a row of book covers including "The Stone World" by Joel Adee, "The End of Nowhere" by Frederick DeArsh, "Woman of Light" by Kall Fajardo-Anstine, "Daughter of Redwinter" by Ed McDonald, "On Rotation" by Shireen Durrani, "Down in the River" by John Wherry Flores, and "The Shadow of the Empire" by Xinyin Xie.

Step 2: After clicking on the title, be sure to take a look at the genre field.



The screenshot shows the Novelist Plus website interface for the search results of "Ophelia after all". The search bar at the top contains the text "Ophelia After All" and the "Search" button. Below the search bar, there are tabs for "Basic Search", "Advanced Search", and "Search History". The main content area displays the book "Ophelia after all (Feb 2022)" by Marie Racquel. The book cover is shown on the left. To the right of the cover, the book's details are listed: "Author: Marie Racquel", "Teen Fiction", "Description: Seventeen-year-old Ophelia Rojas, well known for her rose garden and her dramatic crushes on every boy in sight, begins to question her sexuality and sense of self when she starts to fall for cute, quiet Talia Sanchez in the weeks leading up to their high school prom and graduation.", "Book Appeal Terms: Definition of Appeal Terms", "Genre: Coming-of-age stories; Debut title; LGBTQIA fiction; Realistic fiction", "Themes: Coming out experiences; We used to be friends", "Character: LGBTQIA diverse", "Storyline: Character-driven; Own voices", "Tone: Angst-filled; Emotionally intense; High-drama; Moving", "Min/Max Grade level: 9 - 12", and "Persistent link to this record (Permalink): https://search-ebcsohost-com.smithpubliclibrary.idm.oclc.org/login.aspx?direct=true&db=neh&lg=UI&an=t1040320&site=novp-live". A black arrow points to the "Genre" field.

Step 3: Look at the "More About This Book" tab underneath the main title info for a breakdown of various themes covered in the book. Notice the reviews shown on our online catalog can also be found here.



Popularity: ★★☆☆☆
Read reviews on
goodreads
★★★★★
935 reviews

Ophelia after all (Feb 2022)

Author: Marie, Racquel

Teen Fiction

Description:

Seventeen-year-old Ophelia Rojas, well known for her rose garden and her dramatic crushes on every boy in sight, begins to question her sexuality and sense of self when she starts to fall for cute, quiet Talia Sanchez in the weeks leading up to their high school prom and graduation.

Book Appeal Terms: [Definition of Appeal Terms](#)

Genre: Coming-of-age stories; Debut title; LGBTQIA fiction; Realistic fiction

Themes: Coming out experiences; We used to be friends

Character: LGBTQIA diverse

Storyline: Character-driven; Own voices

Tone: Angst-filled; Emotionally intense; High-drama; Moving

Min/Max Grade level: 9 - 12

Persistent link to this record (Permalink):

<https://search-ebshost-com.smithpubliclibrary.idm.oclc.org/login.aspx?direct=true&db=neh&lg=UI&an=11040320&site=novp-live>

Reviews **More About This Book** Lists & Articles

Author Information:

Racquel Marie

Publisher information:

New York: Feiwel and Friends 2022.; 336 p.

Genre:

Realistic fiction
[Coming-of-age stories](#)
[LGBTQIA fiction](#)
[Debut title](#)

Themes:

[Coming out experiences](#)
[We used to be friends](#)

Character:

[LGBTQIA diverse](#)

Storyline:

[Character-driven](#)
[Own voices](#)

Resource #4 - Common Sense Media

Commonsensemedia.org is an independent review resource that covers books, movies, TV shows and more! Two sections that are often helpful: "A Lot or a Little: The Parents Guide to What's in This Book" and "What Parents Need to Know" provides a quick and easy way to analyze content. They typically only review the most popular and current materials, but they are very comprehensive.



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Reviews for what your kids are into
(before they get into it)

Trusted ratings created with families in mind.

Step 1: Search for a title and click on the format you are interested in.

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Filter results
Showing 3 results. [Clear filters](#)

Entertainment Type

- ☐ Movies
- ☐ TV shows
- ☐ Games
- ☐ Apps

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Rest of the Site

- ☐ Reviews
- ☐ Editors' Picks
- ☐ Videos
- ☐ Articles

[Show more](#)

Showing 3 results for "me earl and the dying girl" Sort by: Relevance

Are you an educator? [Search here instead](#)

MOVIE
Me and Earl and the Dying Girl
age 14+ ★★★★★
Deeply moving, irreverent film about friends, cancer, life.
On DVD/Streaming (Release Year: 2015)
[Watch our review](#) [See full review](#) [Watch or buy](#)

BOOK
Me and Earl and the Dying Girl
age 14+ ★★★★★
Tale of dying teen is full of embarrassing comic moments.
By: [Jesse Andrews](#) (2012)
[See full review](#) [Read or buy](#)

VIDEO
Me and Earl and the Dying Girl
[Continue reading](#)

Step 2: Review the information in the "A lot or a little" section.

A Lot or a Little?
The parents' guide to what's in this book.

Educational Value A+ ●●●●●>	Positive Messages ●+ ●●●●●>	Positive Role Models +● ●●●●●>
Violence & Scariness ●●●●●>	Sex, Romance & Nudity ●●●●●>	Language #! ●●●●●>
Products & Purchases \$ Not present	Drinking, Drugs & Smoking ●●●●●>	

Step 3: Scroll down to access the "What Parents Need to Know" section.

A Lot or a Little?

The parents' guide to what's in this book.

Educational Value
A+ ●●●●●

Positive Messages
●●●●●

Positive Role Models
●●●●●

Violence & Scariness
●●●●●

Sex, Romance & Nudity
●●●●●

Language
#! ●●●●●

Products & Purchases
\$ Not present


Drinking, Drugs & Smoking
●●●●●

What Parents Need to Know

Parents need to know that readers are aware from the title that a teen girl is dying in *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*, and there are few things more upsetting than that. Readers and their parents may also be put off by narrator Greg's teen self-centeredness and admitted lack of empathy with his friend Rachel -- or by the characters' liberal use of crude and profane language. But this novel is extremely clever and funny, and though Greg's excessive self-loathing can seem over-the-top, there's something very true in this portrayal of high school chaos and friendship. There is a reference to Greg's brothers' marijuana use, and Greg and Earl accidentally ingest some.

[Show less](#)

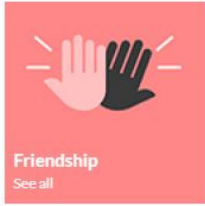
Our Editors Recommend



The Catcher in the Rye
One of the greatest novels of the 20th century.
✓ age 14+

Themes & Topics

Browse titles with similar subject matter.



Friendship
See all

Common Sense Media's unbiased ratings are created by expert reviewers and aren't influenced by the product's creators or by any of our funders, affiliates, or partners.

Resource #5 - Ask a Librarian

Our library staff is happy to help find the perfect book for you and your child! Let us know what it is you like and what you'd like to avoid and we will do our best to find what's right for you.

We hope this guide has been helpful. If you have any questions about this document or about the library, please reach out to us:

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