



Title: Zenobia July
Author: Lisa Bunker
Imprint: Viking Books for Young Readers
Publisher: Penguin Young Readers
On sale date: May 21, 2019
ISBN: 9780451479402
Format: Hardcover
Age Range*: 10 and up
Grade Range: 5 and Up

BOOK RESUME: ZENOBIA JULY

BOOK SYNOPSIS

The critically acclaimed author of *Felix Yz* crafts a bold, heartfelt story about a trans girl solving a cyber mystery and coming into her own.

Zenobia July is starting a new life. She used to live in Arizona with her father; now she's in Maine with her aunts. She used to spend most of her time behind a computer screen, improving her impressive coding and hacking skills; now she's coming out of her shell and discovering a community of friends at Monarch Middle School. People used to tell her she was a boy; now she's able to live openly as the girl she always knew she was.

When someone anonymously posts hateful memes on her school's website, Zenobia knows she's the one with the abilities to solve the mystery, all while wrestling with the challenges of a new school, a new family, and coming to grips with presenting her true gender for the first time. Timely and touching, *Zenobia July* is, at its heart, a story about finding home.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Bunker's portrayal of a trans middle school student grappling with typical tween insecurities while being supported by her family and friends is a welcome and much-needed addition to a limited middle grade canon."

— *School Library Journal*, starred review

"Will be sure to intrigue and entertain young readers from all walks of life."

— *Booklist*

"A fun read that manages to feel solidly traditional while breaking new ground."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- An ALA Rainbow List selection
- A CCBC Choices selection
- A Maine Student Book Award selection
- A Rhode Island Middle School Book Award selection
- A Vermont Middle Grade Children's Book Award selection

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [TeachingBooks.net resources](#)
- [Why I Write Realistic and Relatable Young Rainbow Characters by Lisa Bunker](#)
- [Shelf Awareness: Stonewall Anniversary Issue Q&A](#)

Updated 7.11.2024

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*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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