

Bad Girls, Bad Girls, Whatcha Gonna Do?

By Cynthia Voigt



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It's not easy being Mikey Elsinger and Margalo Epps in ninth grade. It seems like things are changing. Now some people *want* to sit at the same lunch table with them, and some even ask them for advice. What are the two friends to make of this strange behavior?

Frankly all the attention cuts into the little time they have together and distracts attention from their own interests, like tennis and drama, and their own problems, like cheating in tennis and things not going the way Margalo plans they will in drama. In the opinion of these two bad girls, ninth grade can't end fast enough! But no matter how bad things get, one thing's for sure: They'll have each other.

The final book in the acclaimed Bad Girls series, *Bad Girls*, *Bad Girls*, *Whatcha Gonna Do?* is another funny, insightful, and realistic novel from Newbery Medal winner Cynthia Voigt.



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Bad Girls, Bad Girls, Whatcha Gonna Do? By Cynthia Voigt Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5-8–Mikey Elsinger and Margalo Epps are back in this fifth book in the series. Improbable best friends since fifth grade, the girls are now in ninth grade. Margalo has more than \$200 stolen from her and tries to find the thieves. Mikey is thrown off the tennis team because she refuses to follow the advice of her coach and cheat on line calls. The girls both come up with a scheme to get rid of the bullies who are tormenting their dorky friend Hadrian and help a friend whose boyfriend is threatening to ruin her reputation if she doesn't have sex with him. Most teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators are no help at all; in fact, they add to the problems. Much of the book centers on the girls' table in the cafeteria, where the jockeying for position, one-upmanship, self-involvement, and shallowness are so obnoxious that it is as difficult to care about these kids as it is to keep the flat minor characters straight. Unfamiliar details, particularly about the girls' families, make this book difficult to read on its own. Clearly not up to the standards of some of the author's award-winning novels, this latest installment should be purchased only for hardcore fans of the series.—Connie Tyrrell Burns, Mahoney Middle School, South Portland, ME
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From **Booklist**

Gr. 6-9. In this installment in the Bad Girls series, which began in 1996, Mikey and Margalo, now in ninth grade, face ethical issues: Mikey's tennis coach is subtly encouraging her to cheat, and Margalo must find a thief after a teacher refuses to become involved. Although there are some humorous moments, a lot of them fall flat, and the dialogue is unconvincing (Would a high-school bad girl really call someone a "no-good ratfink lunchpail bum"?). Yes, the girls are involved in noble causes and are dismayed by the lack of adult and peer concern, but the situation isn't believable. Voigt's previous books are better demonstrations of her skill, but diehard series fans will want this. *Cindy Dobrez*

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About the Author

Cynthia Voigt won the Newbery Medal for *Dicey's Song* and the Newbery Honor Award for *A Solitary Blue*, both part of the beloved Tillerman Cycle. She is also the author of many other celebrated books for middle-grade and teen readers, including *Izzy, Willy-Nilly* and *Jackaroo*. She was awarded the Margaret A. Edwards Award in 1995 for her work in literature, and the Katahdin Award in 2004. She lives in Maine.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carolyn Baird:

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of reserve you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with education and learning books but if you want really feel happy read one along with theme for entertaining such as comic or novel. The particular Bad Girls, Bad Girls, Whatcha Gonna Do? is kind of book which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Karen Nash:

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Benjamin Herrera:

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