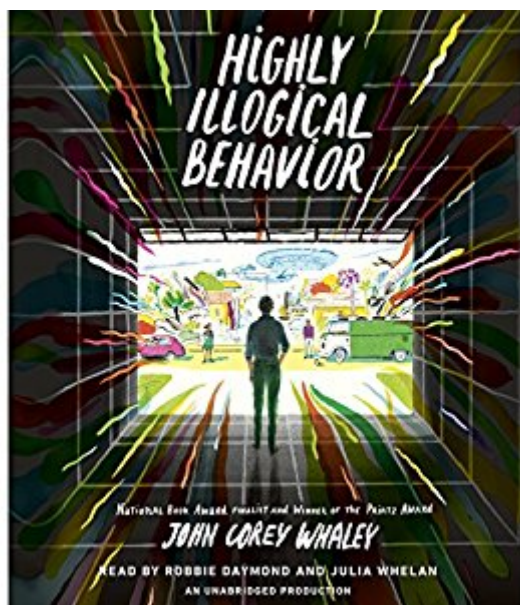


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# Highly Illogical Behavior



## Synopsis

Teen and adult fans of *All the Bright Places*, *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*, and *Everything, Everything* will adore this quirky story of coming of age, coming out, friendship, love...and agoraphobia. Sixteen-year-old Solomon is agoraphobic. He hasn't left the house in three years, which is fine by him. Ambitious Lisa desperately wants to get into the second-best psychology program for college (she's being realistic). But how can she prove she deserves a spot there? Solomon is the answer. Determined to "fix" Sol, Lisa thrusts herself into his life, introducing him to her charming boyfriend, Clark, and confiding her fears in him. Soon all three teens are far closer than they thought they'd be, and when their facades fall down, their friendships threaten to collapse as well. A hilarious and heartwarming coming-of-age perfect for fans of Matthew Quick and Rainbow Rowell, *Highly Illogical Behavior* showcases the different ways in which we hide ourselves from the world - and the ways in which love, tragedy, and the need for connection may be the only things to bring us back into the light.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am a mess. This book. Was so amazing. From the beginning, I related to Solomon on a really personal level. I'm not agoraphobic, but I have severe chronic pain, which means I have to spend most of my time in my house. If I want to participate, the world, for the most part, has to come to me. I'm also lucky like Solomon. A lot of people live with debilitating chronic illnesses, but they aren't privileged enough to have financial and/or emotional support systems. I'm really glad Whaley

decided to talk about that a few times in the book - how lucky Sol is to have his great parents, how guilty he sometimes feels that his life \*really isn't that bad\* even though he lives with severe anxiety. It's a very complex intersection to be handicapped and privileged, and Whaley explores it with subtle perfection. Anyways. That was my personal connection to the book. Beyond that, all of the characters in here are amazing. By the end I was rooting for every single one of them. I want to be friends with them. I want to play board games and watch TV with them. Craft-wise, the pacing was perfection. The pages flew by, but I don't feel like a single scene was missing. Oh, and it was funny! Yes, this book made me cry, but like 95% of the time it made me laugh, and laugh/crying is my favorite emotion of all the emotions. Okay. Rambling review comes to an end. Please read this book. I hope you love it as much as I did!

I started the book not enjoying it. As someone who has struggled with mental illness for a long time, I was worried that, like many other pieces of media, this book wouldn't do the issue justice. Well you don't have to worry about that because the book manages to make anxiety probably as understandable as one can through a work of fiction while still maintaining something that an average reader can understand. Unfortunately, the writing is simply sub-par. The plot was very straightforward, with the biggest twist being, well I won't spoil it but it was a very generic and common issue/topic that crops up now and didn't need to be covered in this book. There were also lots of cringe-worthy cliches from one of the main characters Lisa Praytor being a stereotypical know it all model student to her gossipy high school best friend and her relationship with her boyfriend. Speech dialogue was written by someone who seems to have never heard a teenager talk to a peer in 35 years. All that said, the story was engrossing and entertaining in the middle of the novel, but by the end I was once again reminded of the heavy cliches that I was annoyed with in the first place. The ending was also sub-par, leaving many questions unanswered about every single character besides the grandmother of the main character Solomon. But despite the room left in the characters' futures, I would not be interested in reading about them in a, likely predictable, sequel.

I liked the evolution of the friendship between the three main characters. I didn't particularly care for the profanity. All the characters were important to the delivery of the story. The ending showed Solomon accepting his limitations, but keeping an open mind that he could one day take the next step, and Lisa understanding what was most important during this entire experience. Beautiful story!!

This book kept me on my toes with 'will he ever leave the house' in the back of my head. This book is a great eye opener to mental illnesses and how people deal with them. I would recommend this book to those who suffer with mental illness because this book can give hope. Hope that with baby steps you can move towards getting better. I would also recommend this book to those who are friends with people that suffer from mental illness because this book really shows how people with mental illnesses are people too and have their own normal world and how people can help others. This is truly a great book will definitely be recommending to my friends and will most likely be reading again in a few weeks.

4.5 stars. Solomon Reed appears to be severely flawed. He has a mental illness that has kept him inside his home for over three years. Yet, Whaley shows that "damaged" and "normal" and "crazy" are relative terms. Solomon actually evolves the most in this narrative, and you'll instantly love him. Yes, he's fragile, but he has swoon-worthy parents, his grandmother is hip-mazing, he's nerdy and funny...I mean, if you're going to be a shut-in, at least be as fun as Solomon. And Lisa. You can sense her intensity from her first word, and you want to hate her once you see her desperation, yet you'll fall for her too. Because she has a story and reasons and she might not be as self-centered as she appears.

This book was eye opening for me. Having family with mental illnesses, I really wanted to understand it from THEIR perspective. Solomon's perspective was incredibly insightful, and I quickly fell in love with his character. Being someone who also struggles with anxiety, this gave me a new perspective and hope. I've already recommended it to many friends. I can honestly see the characters in my head, and can imagine this great story becoming a movie.

I think what I loved about this book was that there was no cliches, and Solomon's mental illness was accurately portrayed. I loved the chapters from his perspective and he truly is a character you grow to love. There was no fix to his problem but there was a temporary reprieve. If you're looking for something different to read, I would recommend this book.

This book was entertaining, and the dialogue was fun and realistic-seeming. I wanted more of an idea of how Solomon [and really Solo-man?] and his decisions had influenced the world around him, though. Since it was written in 3rd person limited omniscient, I would have loved hearing from his

parents and grandmother, as well as his one friend from middle school who is mentioned, but doesn't appear.

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