

# 100 Sideways Miles

By Andrew Smith




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Destiny takes a detour in this “wickedly witty and offbeat novel” (*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review) that was nominated for the National Book Award.

Finn Easton sees the world through miles instead of minutes. It’s how he makes sense of the world, and how he tries to convince himself that he’s a real boy and not just a character in his father’s bestselling cult-classic book. Finn has two things going for him: his best friend, the possibly-insane-but-definitely-excellent Cade Hernandez, and Julia Bishop, the first girl he’s ever loved.

Then Julia moves away, and Finn is heartbroken. Feeling restless and trapped in the book, Finn embarks on a road trip with Cade to visit their college of choice in Oklahoma. When an unexpected accident happens and the boys become unlikely heroes, they take an eye-opening detour away from everything they thought they had planned—and learn how to write their own destiny.

- NYTBR Notable Children’s Book of the Year
- NPR Best Book of the Year
- NYPL’s Best Book of the Year for Teens
- ALA Best Fiction for Young Adults
- Chicago Public Library Best Teen Fiction of the Year
- A Texas Tayshas Top Ten Selection

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## 100 Sideways Miles By Andrew Smith Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

**\*Starred Review\*** Finn Easton lives on the edge of disaster. A dead horse falling from a bridge injured him as a child at the same time that it killed his mother. Also, his writer dad featured not only Finn's name but also his epilepsy in a novel that became a sci-fi cult classic, bringing his son unwanted notoriety. Also, Finn's dog likes to rub up against dead things. Also, lastly, he lives in a California canyon that was the site of dam-break disaster, and during seizures, he sees the ghosts of two girls who died in the flood. Given all this, forging a positive identity seems almost impossible for Finn, especially when he is overshadowed by his best friend Cade, a charismatic jokester. Then Finn meets Julia, a new student from Chicago, and he finds that his oddball idiosyncrasies can be charming. When Julia returns to the Midwest, all seems lost, but a road trip with Cade, a heroic rescue during a flash flood, mistaken identities, and a long detour offer Finn chances to remake himself. Leavened with humor and high-school high jinks, this unpredictable story of love and friendship is close to perfect. This falls on the *Winger* (2013) side of Smith's oeuvre rather than *The Marbury Lens* (2010) side, and its offbeat tone will endear it to fans of writers like Libba Bray. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Smith is a slow-but-sure publishing success story, with the recent *Winger* and *Grasshopper Jungle* bringing him overdue acclaim. Demand, too, is on the rise. Grades 9-12. --Karen Cruze

### Review

"A wickedly witty and offbeat novel...a breathtaking read." (*Kirkus Reviews, starred review*)

"John Green fans will enjoy Smith's newest novel." (*VOYA*)

"Finn's musings about the universe's constant dispersal and recycling of atoms, along with his habit for measuring time in the distance the Earth is forever racing around the sun, provide a memorable perspective on human (in)significance." (*Publishers Weekly, Starred Review*)

"I'm not sure I've ever laughed with, cried with, and rooted harder for a character than Finn Easton. His voice is so strong, so real, that his triumphs and failures felt like they were my own. I seriously loved this book." (Len Vlahos, author of *The Scar Boys*)

Finn Easton has lived his life in the shadow of a book. As a child, Finn was severely injured and his mother killed in a freak accident: a dead horse landed on them when it fell off a truck that was traveling over a bridge. After the accident, his father took many of Finn's unique characteristics (his name, heterochromatic eyes, propensity to measure time in miles traveled by the Earth in orbit, struggle with epilepsy, and a particular scar along his back) and made them into a character in a Robert Heinlein-esque novel, *The Lazarus Door*. The novel has attained cult status around the world and made Finn's life a nightmare. The only person who treats him as though he is not the character in the book is his best friend, Cade Hernandez, the tobacco-chewing, sex-obsessed, teacher-baiting hero to their classmates, beloved for his pitching skills and his ability to get most people—especially girls—to do whatever he wants. Late in their junior year, Julia Bishop moves in and Finn falls in love. She is creative and funny. When she announces that she is moving back home to Chicago shortly after Finn's birthday, he is heartbroken, but decides to continue with his planned road trip with Cade to Dunston University in Oklahoma, a school they plan to attend unless Cade is drafted by the major leagues or is given an athletic scholarship to another university. The trip is the first time Finn has been out of California or away from home, and Cade helps him cut the cord by throwing away his cell while on the road in Arizona. While driving in a deluge in Oklahoma, they witness an accident and risk their own lives rescuing a little boy, a dog, and a grandfather from a raging river. More than a bit wandering,

this will appeal to teens who like novels that with a bit of an absurdist edge.—Suanne B. Roush, formerly at Osceola High School, Seminole, FL (School Library Journal July 2014 \*STARRED REVIEW)

\*"This will appeal to teens who like novels that with a bit of an absurdist edge." (*School Library Journal, starred review*)

"Finn and Cade are a tag team for the ages. No one does male friendship (or vomit and accidental nudity) better than Andrew Smith." (*S.A. Bodeen, author of The Compound*)

"An unusual and memorable novel." (*Horn Book*)

\*"This unpredictable story of love and friendship is close to perfect." (*Booklist, starred review*)

"The current of genuine warmth that runs through it ensures multiple revisits and enthusiastic sharing." (*BCCB, starred review*)

\*"A mosaic of recurring motifs, subtle symbolism, wonderfully funny bits, and the best birthday present ever make this a book that repays close attention; the current of genuine warmth that runs through it ensures multiple revisits and enthusiastic sharing." (*BCCB, starred review*)

"If you're a young boy and a dead horse falls off a bridge, kills your mother, and leaves you with deep scars — and you're prone to epileptic seizures — you'd come to expect the unexpected. Still, it doesn't mean you have to like it. In the shadow of his best friend, the popular and athletic Cade, and forever tied to his fictional namesake in his father's best-selling sci-fi novel, Finn has trouble figuring out who he's supposed to be. Then he meets a new girl and for the first time writes his own story. Hilarious and heartbreaking, you'll be rooting for Finn all the way." (recommended by Lisa Yee, author, most recently of *Warp Speed*)

#### About the Author

Andrew Smith is the author of several award-winning novels for young adults. He lives in a very remote area in the mountains of Southern California with his family, two horses, two dogs and three cats. He doesn't watch television and occupies himself by writing, bumping into things outdoors, and taking ten-mile runs on snowy trails. He maintains a blog and website about his strange writing life at [GhostMedicine.Blogspot.com](http://GhostMedicine.Blogspot.com).

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

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A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read the book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent the whole day to reading a book. The book 100 Sideways Miles it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book possesses high quality.

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