



## Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence

By Maya Van Wagenen

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

**Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence** By  
Maya Van Wagenen

*New York Times* Bestseller

**A breakout teen author explores the true meaning of popularity and how to survive middle school in this hysterically funny, touchingly honest contemporary memoir.**

“I was inspired by [Maya's] journey and made a point of saving a copy of ‘Popular’ for my sister, who starts middle school this fall. Maybe if I had read it when I was her age, it could have saved me from a world of hurt, or at least put that world in perspective.” —Maude Apatow, *New York Times Book Review*

*Can curlers, girdles, Vaseline, and a strand of pearls help a shy girl become popular?*

*Maya Van Wagenen is about to find out.*

Stuck near the bottom of the social ladder at “pretty much the lowest level of people at school who aren’t paid to be here,” Maya has never been popular. But before starting eighth grade, she decides to begin a unique social experiment: spend the school year following a 1950s popularity guide, written by former teen model Betty Cornell.

The real-life results are hilarious, painful, and filled with unexpected surprises. Told with humor and grace, Maya’s journey offers readers of all ages a thoroughly contemporary example of kindness and self-confidence, along with a better understanding of what it means to be popular.



[Download Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Sec ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Sec ...pdf](#)



# **Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence**

*By Maya Van Wagenen*

**Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence** By Maya Van Wagenen

**New York Times** Bestseller

**A breakout teen author explores the true meaning of popularity and how to survive middle school in this hysterically funny, touchingly honest contemporary memoir.**

“I was inspired by [Maya’s] journey and made a point of saving a copy of ‘Popular’ for my sister, who starts middle school this fall. Maybe if I had read it when I was her age, it could have saved me from a world of hurt, or at least put that world in perspective.” —Maude Apatow, *New York Times Book Review*

*Can curlers, girdles, Vaseline, and a strand of pearls help a shy girl become popular? Maya Van Wagenen is about to find out.*

Stuck near the bottom of the social ladder at “pretty much the lowest level of people at school who aren’t paid to be here,” Maya has never been popular. But before starting eighth grade, she decides to begin a unique social experiment: spend the school year following a 1950s popularity guide, written by former teen model Betty Cornell.

The real-life results are hilarious, painful, and filled with unexpected surprises. Told with humor and grace, Maya’s journey offers readers of all ages a thoroughly contemporary example of kindness and self-confidence, along with a better understanding of what it means to be popular.

**Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence** By Maya Van Wagenen  
**Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #50793 in Books
- Published on: 2015-04-21
- Released on: 2015-04-21
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.27" h x .71" w x 5.49" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages



[Download Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence.pdf](#)



[Read Online Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Sec ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence  
By Maya Van Wagenen**

---

## **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—The bright and perceptive Van Wagenen wanted to boost her popularity in middle school. As a self-defined "Social Outcast, the lowest level of people at school who weren't paid to be there," the eighth-grader had quite a climb ahead of her. Her modus operandi was intriguing: she used a 1950s teen etiquette book that her father found at a thrift store as a guide to climb the social ladder. The clash of eras and cultures is funny—the author wears a girdle, hat, and pearls to class; learns how to apply makeup; improves her posture and poise; and tries a diet. But the best lessons she learns from Fifties teen model Betty Cornell's *Teen-Age Popularity Guide* are about how to talk to and understand the people around her. Bravely visiting all the various cliques in the lunchroom and making conversation with her secret Sunday school crush, she becomes even more sensitive and aware—and yes, more popular. Van Wagenen's tone is personable and polished. Even though she has many typical tween obsessions and concerns, her writing is surprisingly mature. While overall this light memoir provides plenty of fun, it has a grittier backdrop than the cover and description might suggest. Van Wagenen's school, in Brownsville, TX, near the Mexican border, commonly experiences lockdown drills and warnings against gangs, and she casually mentions that smoke from a drug war in Matamoros, Mexico, is visible from her house. The part-Hispanic teen also occasionally sprinkles in Spanish words. With a DreamWorks movie option in the works, this entertaining title should be in demand.—Liz French, Library Journal

Review

**A New York Times bestseller!**

**Maya Van Wagenen is a Time magazine Top 16 Most Influential Teen of 2013**

**and a Huffington Post Most Fearless Teen of 2013**

“I was inspired by her journey and made a point of saving a copy of ‘Popular’ for my sister, who starts middle school this fall. Maybe if I had read it when I was her age, it could have saved me from a world of hurt, or at least put that world in perspective.”

—Maude Apatow for the *New York Times Book Review*

“*Popular* taps into a feeling shared by Bradbury and Bieber enthusiasts alike—the need to fit in during middle school.” —*USA Today*

“Everyone’s happiness project looks different, and I was utterly charmed by Maya Van Wagenen’s honest, funny, and thought-provoking account of her efforts to become ‘popular.’”

—Gretchen Rubin, #1 bestselling author of *The Happiness Project*

“Geeky and dorky, but never wimpy, Maya Van Wagenen is as powerful and honest as she is quirky and funny—and startlingly gifted. She’s the real deal, folks, **a teenage John Green for the next generation.** Stunning.” —Margaret Stohl, bestselling co-author of the Beautiful Creatures series

“Maya Van Wagenen’s memoir, *Popular*, would have been wonderful to read as a kid, and so reassuring to Nerdy Teenage Me. Her year-long experiment in popularity is **timeless**; the intelligent and humane way she gets to the heart of the matter is uniquely her.

Funny, determined, and wry, Van Wagenen has written a wise, heartfelt guide for other kids eager to keep up.” —Rachel Hartman, bestselling author of *Seraphina*

“An interesting and earnest memoir.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

“While completely appropriate for middle school readers, *Popular* is even more entertaining for adults. Van Wagenen is a uniquely gifted talent with a gem of a first novel” —VOYA

#### About the Author

Maya Van Wagenen is sixteen years old. When she was eleven, her family moved to Brownsville, Texas, the setting of *Popular*. When not hunched over a desktop writing, Maya enjoys reading, British television, and chocolate. She now lives with her parents and two siblings in rural Georgia. She is a junior in high school .

#### Users Review

##### From reader reviews:

##### Cornelius Callaghan:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book may be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the e-book untitled *Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence* can be great book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

**Bonnie Fernandez:**

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always aim to and must have the free time or they will get great deal of stress from both daily life and work. So , once we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not only a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer may unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time, the particular book you have read will be Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence.

**Ronna Rutledge:**

With this era which is the greater man or who has ability in doing something more are more special than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time very little but quite enough to possess a look at some books. Among the books in the top collection in your reading list is Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking upward and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

**John Schreiber:**

As we know that book is vital thing to add our information for everything. By a book we can know everything we wish. A book is a group of written, printed, illustrated or even blank sheet. Every year was exactly added. This e-book Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence was filled in relation to science. Spend your spare time to add your knowledge about your science competence. Some people has different feel when they reading some sort of book. If you know how big selling point of a book, you can truly feel enjoy to read a publication. In the modern era like at this point, many ways to get book you wanted.

**Download and Read Online Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen #08K0BF2YQUI**

# **Read Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen for online ebook**

Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen books to read online.

## **Online Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen ebook PDF download**

**Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen Doc**

**Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen Mobipocket**

**Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen EPub**

**08K0BF2YQUI: Popular: How a Geek in Pearls Discovered the Secret to Confidence By Maya Van Wagenen**