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This latest offering from the Orca Soundings Series fulfills its promise as a high-interest/low reading ability book. It follows Mike Mullens as he misses his chance with his best friend Lindsay as a result of a simple misunderstanding that destroys Lindsay's trust. When Lindsay returns to school after a summer away, she has transformed into a different girl who ignores Mike and chases after other boys. When footage of Lindsay having sex, while drunk and on drugs, is sent around the school, Mike tries to help her by beating up the perpetrator and threatening him with blackmail. Lindsay attempts suicide and is saved by Mike's timely arrival at her house.

The characters are not fully developed in this story. It is unclear why Lindsay would effect such a radical transformation over the summer or why, since she is not identifiable in the video, she would feel compelled to take her own life. Mike is similarly flat, with only brief conversations with his mother about Lindsay's problems and no mention of his father at all. His heroic status comes from his steadfast dedication to Lindsay throughout the novel, despite the presence of other, potentially more interesting, girls in the text. Although there is some brief mention of the different standards applying to male and female sexuality, Mike's strategy of physically intimidating the perpetrator (who is never named as the rapist he is) seems short-sighted. The point of viral footage is that it ceases to remain within the control of the person who first sent the material.

Thematic Links: High School; Sex; Technology; Suicide

Kristine Moruzi