

# Booktalk!

## A Crooked Kind of Perfect

Written by Linda Urban

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"I have gone over to the dork side," Zoe Elias says to herself when her best friend dumps her and she ends up at a lunch table with Wheeler Diggs, hardly the school's most sought-after cafeteria companion. As if things weren't already difficult enough for the almost 11-year-old. Her mom works all the time and she can't rely on her dad. He's a nice guy but too weird to leave the house. Instead of learning to play the piano, Zoe finds herself banging out old television theme songs on an electric organ. And now there's lunch at Wheeler's table – lots of boys, lots of burps.

Zoe's life doesn't seem even like a crooked kind of perfect. It seems like a mess. And then it doesn't.

Zoe Elias is a smart, funny, interesting girl. If she wants to sit at your lunch table, take my advice: let her. You won't want to let her go!



Best for fourth grade and up