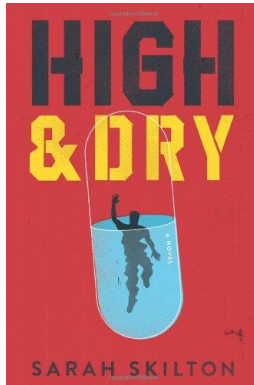


Booklist Review

Books For Youth - Fiction - Mystery



High and Dry.

Skilton, Sarah (author).

Apr. 2014. 208p. Abrams/Amulet, hardcover, \$16.95 ([9781419709296](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9781419709296)). Grades 9-12.

[REVIEW](#). First published [April 1, 2014](#) ([Booklist](#)).

Charlie Dixon had it made: soccer star, great parents, loving girlfriend, and worry-free college acceptance. Then he's hit by an avalanche of problems. Heartsick about being dumped (and nursing a drinking problem), he leaves his car at a party and his previous ex drives him home. At the same time, a student trips out on LSD and is dumped at the hospital ER by someone driving Charlie's car. On top of all that, he is asked by his ex to find a flash drive that contains something that people at school seem desperate to have. Not enough? His best friend is mixed up in drug dealing, he's talked into throwing a soccer match, and peer pressure is about to make him explode. Skilton's latest covers a tense and complicated week during which Charlie must unravel relationships, desires, lies, and truths in order to clear his name, regain his sense of self, and set his world right again. Despite a slow start, loads of unlikable characters, and seemingly random events, the clues prove to be well placed, yielding a rich payoff. — *Jeanne Fredriksen*



Booklist Editors Recommend

Titles similar to *High and Dry*

- *Mojo*
- *The Betrayal of Natalie Hargrove*