



David's Store

Books

See All 31 Product Categories

Your Account



Cart

Wish List

Help



Search | Browse Subjects

Bestsellers

The New York Times® Best Sellers

Magazines

Corporate Accounts

E-Books & Docs

Bargain Books

Used Books

Search Amazon.com



Web Search



Get the Most Whenever **Minutes** and the **Best Price** on the **New Motorola V330** from Amazon.com

Join [Amazon Prime](#) and ship Two-Day for free and Overnight for \$3.99.

BOOK INFORMATION

Explore this item

[buying info](#)

[customer reviews](#)

[editorial reviews](#)

Share your thoughts

[write a review](#)

[write a So You'd Like to... guide](#)

[e-mail a friend](#)

[about this item](#)

RECENTLY VIEWED



[Keeping You a Secret](#) by Julie Anne Peters

[See more in the Page You Made](#)

RATE THIS ITEM



- Not interested
- I own it

# Far from Xanadu

by [Julie Anne Peters](#)



[Publisher: learn how customers can search inside this book.](#)

[Share your own customer images](#)

List Price: ~~\$16.00~~

Price: **\$11.55** and eligible for **FREE Super Saver Shipping** on orders over \$25. [See details](#)

You Save: **\$5.44 (32%)**

**Availability:** Usually ships within 24 hours. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com.

**45 used & new** available from **\$8.49**

**Reading level:** Young Adult

**Edition:** Hardcover

READY TO BUY?

[Add to Shopping Cart](#)

[Sign in](#) to turn on 1-Click order

[A9.com users save 1.57% Amazon.](#) [Learn how.](#)

MORE BUYING CHOICES

**45 used & new** from **\$8.49**

**Available for in-store pickup now** from: **\$16**  
Price may vary based on availability

Enter your ZIP Code

[Choose a store](#)

Have one to sell? [Sell yours here](#)

[Add to Wish List](#)

[Add to Wedding Registry](#)

Don't have one? We'll set one up for you.

**Buy this book for only \$.01 when you get a new Amazon Visa® Card**

Apply now and if you're approved instantly, **save \$30** off your first purchase, e **3% rewards**, get a **0% APR\*** and pay **no annual fee**.



Amazon Visa discount: \$30.00

[Find out how](#)

Applied to this item: - \$11.54

Discount remaining: \$18.46 ([Don't show again](#))

Visit the [DVD Store](#)



[The L Word - The Complete First Season DVD](#)  
~ Jennifer Beals

Buy this book with [Keeping You a Secret](#) by Julie Anne Peters today!



+



**Total List Price: ~~\$33.94~~**

**Buy Together Today: \$23.08**

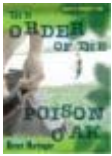
[Buy both now!](#)

**Spectacular Readers**



Never misplace your reading glasses again with the hip and stylish magnetic readers from [CliC](#).

### Listmania!



[Queer reads for queer teens](#): A list by Charlie, 14 year-old guy

► [Add your List](#)

## Customers who bought this book also bought

- [The L Word - The Complete First Season DVD](#) ~ Jennifer Beals
- [Luna](#) by [Julie Anne Peters](#)
- [Keeping You a Secret](#) by [Julie Anne Peters](#)
- [Dawn Of Change](#) by [Gerri Hill](#)
- [Gulf Breeze](#) by [Gerri Hill](#)
- [Car Pool](#) by [Karin Kallmaker](#)

► [Explore Similar Items](#): in [Books](#), in [DVD](#)

## Editorial Reviews

### From Publishers Weekly

Many of the themes that Peters mined in *Luna* appear in this novel, but are more smoothly integrated, making this a more accessible read. For one thing, Mike (I Mary-Elizabeth), who narrates the novel, does not lead a double life, as Luna did. When Xanadu transfers to Mike's small Kansas school, she initially mistakes the narrator for a guy; Mike works out obsessively and dresses in her father's clothing (he killed himself two years ago). Mike, who "acknowledged" she was gay but doesn't embrace it like her male best friend, Jamie, falls hard for the troubled newcomer. The author creates a vivid backdrop in rural Coalton, and it's refreshing that residents accept and even embrace Mike, donating money to send the star softball player to an exclusive camp ("I never, for one day, felt judged or excluded or persecuted in Coalton"). Mike is a unique and realistically complex character, while she wants to go to camp, she initially resists the town's charity. Her fallout with her morbidly obese mother doesn't seem quite severe enough given the ten years of silent treatment she's received, and her own confused feelings towards her father at times seem forced. While Xanadu never becomes as real or as likable as Mike, the author convincingly paints Mike's physical attraction to Xanadu, as well as the heroine's descent into drinking as her obsession with the straight girl grows. Ultimately, readers will root for Mike and will come to understand her pain and her love. Ages 12-up. (May)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

### From School Library Journal

Grade 10 Up—Mike Szabo must deal with more than her share of problems in this engaging, angst-ridden novel. Her alcoholic father committed suicide, her obese mother has given up on life, and her no-good brother has driven the family plumbing business into the ground. To make matters worse, Mike falls deeply in love with a new girl in their small Kansas town. Bad-girl Xanadu has been sent to live with her aunt and uncle after getting into serious trouble dealing drugs. She befriends Mike instantly, though she's undeniably straight, and Mike suffers when Xanadu starts dating. Mike copes by working out at the gym, fixing her neighbors' plumbing, leading her softball team to a winning season, and occasionally binge drinking with her friends. Throughout the novel, she struggles to come to terms with her sexuality—while she is attracted to girls, she doesn't want to label herself, and she objects when her gay best friend, Jamie, tries to do so. The people of Coalton are accepting of Mike and Jamie, but eventually Mike realizes that she will need to leave her small town in search of a first relationship, and that her athletic talent might give her a way out. Despite the multitude of difficulties the protagonist faces, the story never slips into melodrama, and all of the issues are handled with sensitivity and compassion. Xanadu sometimes threatens to become a stereotype as the exotic, sophisticated outsider who is also manipulative and selfish. Overall, though, readers will root for Mike in this heartfelt coming-of-age story. —*Miranda Doyle, Francisco Public Library*

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

---

## Product Details

- **Reading level:** Young Adult
  - **Hardcover:** 288 pages
  - **Publisher:** Megan Tingley (May 4, 2005)
  - **Language:** English
  - **ISBN:** 031615881X
  - **Product Dimensions:** 8.5 x 5.8 x 1.0 inches
  - **Shipping Weight:** 13.3 ounces. ([View shipping rates and policies](#))
  - **Average Customer Review:** ★★★★★ based on 2 reviews. ([Write a review](#))
  - **Amazon.com Sales Rank:** #75,606 in Books  
(Publishers and authors: [improve your sales](#))
- 

## Customers who viewed this book also viewed

- [Keeping You a Secret](#) by [Julie Anne Peters](#)
- [A Room on Lorelei Street](#) by [Mary E. Pearson](#)
- [Gravel Queen](#) by [Tea Benduhn](#)
- [Jailbait](#) by [Leslea Newman](#)
- [Talk](#) by [Kathe Koja](#)
- [Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie](#) by [David Lubar](#)

► [Explore Similar Items](#): in [Books](#), in [DVD](#)

---

## Customer Reviews

Average Customer Review: ★★★★★

[Write an online review](#) and share your thoughts with other customers.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful:

★★★★★ **A novel about unrequited love and self-acceptance**, June 8, 2001

Reviewer: [Teenreads.com](#) (New York, NY) - [See all my reviews](#)

Mighty Mike Szabo is a softball champion growing up in a small Kansas town. Mike works for the feed store, drives a truck, lifts weights, and when the beautiful and exotic Xanadu moves into town, Mike falls in love with her. The only problem is Mike is a girl and Xanadu likes boys.

Julie Anne Peters, the author of a number of critically acclaimed novels for young people, has made her reputation writing about young people struggling with sexual gender identity. FAR FROM XANADU features the life and struggles of Mike Szabo, the only lesbian in a small Kansas town.

Contrary to the popular portrayal of small towns in the Midwest, Mike's neighbors have no problem with her sexual identity. They are a highly supportive, if somewhat traditional, community who are deeply committed to Mike and her future. It is Mike herself, who struggles with what it means to be the only lesbian in town and in love with a girl who does not return her feelings.

Peters, a Denver author, has a deft touch with the Midwestern dialect. She writes about Coalton and its inhabitants with a deep knowledge and affection for the Midwest. Her descriptions and characterizations ring true. So does her refusal to simplify FAR FROM XANADU into a simple, issue-driven, teen novel.

At its simplest FAR FROM XANADU is about unrequited love and what happens when a person falls in love with someone just slightly out of reach. While Mike's sexual identity is a big part of the story, it is not the book's exclusive focus. The best part

of the novel feature Mike's friendships with her flamboyantly gay best friend Jar and with the devastating Xanadu. Instead of dwelling exclusively on the external pressures Mike faces, Peters writes about Mike's internal battle for self-acceptance. As Mike says, "I just wanted to get past wishing I'd been born different, to accepting that I was. Finding the joy in that."

--- Reviewed by Sarah A. Wood

Was this review helpful to you?  yes  no [\(Report this\)](#)

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful:

★★★★★ **Gay teen love story**, April 18, 2005

Reviewer: [Peggy Tibbetts](#) (Silt, CO USA) - [See all my reviews](#)

REAL NAME™

Mike is buff. Mike makes All-State in fast-pitch. When the gorgeous redhead, Xanadu shows up in the tiny Kansas town, Mike falls madly in love with her. But Mike -- aka Mary-Elizabeth -- Szabo is a girl.

Whether you're straight or gay, first love is painful. And Mike falls hard for the exotic beauty from the Denver suburbs with a troubled past. A friendship spark between them immediately but Xanadu is straight. When she falls for Bailey, or the local cowboys, Mike's emotions are turned inside out.

Dealing with her strong feelings for Xanadu stirs up emotions that Mike has buried for two years. Growing up, her dad filled her head with a big dream of a softball scholarship to college. But her dream died when he committed suicide. Mike watches her best friend, Jamie find romance with Shane and latches onto the dream that her love for Xanadu will change her.

Meanwhile, her coach, Mrs. Kinneson, also the school principal, revives her big dream by tempting her with the promise of a slot at fast-pitch camp. But Mike doesn't have the money and she doesn't accept charity. When the townspeople put up a collection to send her to camp, Mike comes to terms with her own self-worth.

Her dreams collide when Xanadu comes running to her when she falls out with Bailey. Mike believes this is her dream that's meant to come true.

"Far from Xanadu" is a witty and sensitive portrayal of a gay teen that cuts through all the differences between us to the single life experience that unites us -- first love.

Was this review helpful to you?  yes  no [\(Report this\)](#)

---

### Listmania!

- [Books teen girls will want to read in 2005](#): by [yareader](#), avid reader
  - [Books for March 2005 and Beyond](#): by [Black Rose](#), Growing Up
  - [HBO & Showtime to Buy](#): by [marielove](#), 3rd Shift Drone
-

## So You'd Like to...

- [Know 50 TV SHOW'S THAT ARE COMING OUT ON DVD at end of 2004](#): by [musicman123456789](#), "DVD COLLECTOR"
- [be a gay girl](#): by [klizbean](#), Gay Girl times TEN
- [have a good collection of lesbian entertainment](#): by [blueoptimist](#), books a movies about yourself, great comedy

---

## Look for similar items by category

Browse similar items in [Books](#):

- [Subjects](#) > [Children's Books](#) > [People & Places](#) > [Social Situations](#) > [Emo & Feelings](#) > [Fiction](#)
- [Subjects](#) > [Teens](#) > [Literature & Fiction](#) > [Love & Romance](#)
- [Subjects](#) > [Teens](#) > [Social Issues](#) > [Homosexuality](#) > [Fiction](#)

---

## Look for similar items by subject

Search [Books](#) by subject:

- [Children's 12-Up - Fiction - Romance](#)
- [Children's Books - Young Adult](#)
- [Children: Young Adult \(Gr. 10-12\)](#)
- [Family problems](#)
- [Fiction](#)
- [General](#)
- [Homosexuality](#)
- [Interpersonal relations](#)
- [Juvenile Fiction](#)
- [Love & Romance](#)
- [School & Education](#)
- [Self-perception](#)
- [Social Situations - Adolescence](#)
- [Social Situations - Emotions & Feelings](#)
- [Juvenile Fiction / Love & Romance](#)

Find books matching ALL checked subjects

i.e., each book must be in subject 1 AND subject 2 AND ...

---

## Suggestion Box

Your comments can help make our site better for everyone. If you've found something incorrect, broken, or frustrating on this page, let us know so that we can improve it. Please note that we are unable to respond directly to suggestions made via this form.

If you need help with an order, please [contact Customer Service](#).

Please mark as many of the following boxes that apply:

- Product information is missing important details.

- Product information is incorrect. Propose corrections using our [Online Catalog Update Form](#).
- The page contains typographical errors.
- The page takes too long to load.
- The page has a software bug in it.
- Content violates [Amazon.com's policy on offensive language](#).
- Product offered violates [Amazon.com's policy](#) on items that can be listed for sale.

**Comments or Examples:**

Examples: Missing information such as dimensions and model number, typos, inaccuracies, etc.

**Submit**

[Amazon.com Privacy Statement](#)

[Amazon.com Shipping Information](#)

[Amazon.com Returns & Exchanges](#)

**Where's My Stuff?**

- Track your [recent orders](#).
- View or change your orders in [Your Account](#).

**Shipping & Returns**

- See our [shipping rates & policies](#).
- [Return](#) an item (here's our [Returns Policy](#)).

**Need Help?**

- Forgot your password? [Click here](#).
- [Redeem](#) or [buy](#) a gift certificate.
- [Visit our Help department](#).

Search All Products

for

GO!

**Your Recent History**

[Learn more](#)

**Recently Viewed Products**

 [Keeping You a Secret](#) by Julie Anne Peters

▶ [Visit the Page You Made](#)

[Amazon.com Home](#) | [Directory of All Stores](#)

Our International Sites: [Canada](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [Germany](#) | [Japan](#) | [France](#) | [China](#)

[Contact Us](#) | [Help](#) | [Shopping Cart](#) | [Your Account](#) | [Sell Items](#) | [1-Click Settings](#)

[Investor Relations](#) | [Press Releases](#) | [Join Our Staff](#)

[Conditions of Use](#) | [Privacy Notice](#) © 1996-2005, Amazon.com, Inc. or its affiliates