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Semple, Maria. Where'd You Go, Bernadette

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This hilarious, smart and touching story all begins with Bee Fox's perfect report card. Her chosen reward, a family trip to Antarctica, sets off a series of events that no one saw coming. Her mother, Bernadette, is the most affected by this decision. She suffers from intense anxiety after a failed architecture career and retreated to Seattle with her Microsoft-prodigy husband only to become the most hated Mom at Bee's private school, shut-up in the family's dilapidated mansion. On news of the Antarctica trip, she panics and after demonstrating some extremely odd behavior, vanishes. It is up to Bee to piece together all of the evidence and track down her Mother before everything falls apart.

Semple is a great modern storyteller; she captures the quirkiness of a dysfunctional family in a way that will have you smirking. Peppered with emails, memos, and all types of modern correspondence, the story will grab you will its unique structure.

If you loved this book and are looking for a read-alike, check out these titles:

The Family Fang by Kevin Wilson

This is Where I Leave You by Jonathan Tropper

How It All Began by Penelope Lively

The Leftovers by Tom Perrotta

semple and where'd you go bernadette
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