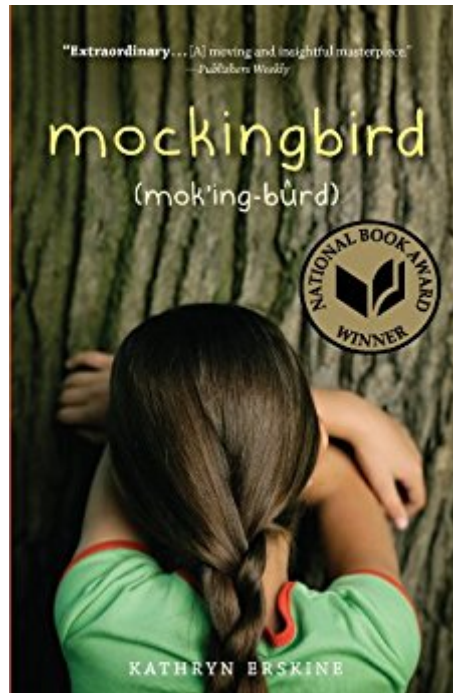




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Mockingbird



Synopsis

THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD WINNER and ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT NOVELS OF OUR TIME FOR YOUNG READERS Caitlin has Asperger's. The world according to her is black and white; anything in between is confusing. Before, when things got confusing, Caitlin went to her older brother, Devon, for help. But Devon was killed in a school shooting, and Caitlin's dad is so distraught that he is just not helpful. Caitlin wants everything to go back to the way things were, but she doesn't know how to do that. Then she comes across the word closure--and she realizes this is what she needs. And in her search for it, Caitlin discovers that the world may not be so black and white after all. "Powerful."--Publishers Weekly "A strong and complex character study."--The Horn Book "Allusions to Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the portrayal of a whole community's healing process, and the sharp insights into Caitlyn's behavior enhance this fine addition to the recent group of books with narrators with autism and Asbergers."--Booklist

Book Information

File Size: 2417 KB

Print Length: 239 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0399252649

Publisher: Puffin Books; 1 edition (April 15, 2010)

Publication Date: April 15, 2010

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B004CYF10Y

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #60,706 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #15 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #41 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents #106 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying

Customer Reviews

What is autism? Can't quite explain it? Read this book. It's told from the first-person POV of a young girl with Aspergers. Her family and the community are trying to heal from a tragic school shooting. The protag lost her older brother. She watches as others (especially her father) struggle with their emotions while trying to explain her own, but of course, she processes differently than others. Along the way she forms relationships with two other children affected: one whose mother was killed and the cousin of the perpetrator. The three of them band together and grow. This is not only a great story about friendship and healing, but also does a great job explaining how people with ASD view the world. This is such a good book that I use it in my high school class, despite it being more appropriate for middle school readers.

Unbelievable book. I honestly cannot even describe how much I loved this book. Erskine has an remarkable understanding of the mind of a child with Asperger's Syndrome. The writing, the dialogue; it's as if you are quite literally in the head of the narrator. To describe this book as an emotional roller-coaster may sound cliched, but is most entirely accurate. Reading this book, whether in public or in private, I laughed, cried and found myself in a confused state where I wasn't even sure what to feel. This book convey's an unbelievable story of transformation in a way that is so human, any one can relate and empathize with the nearly deceptively dynamic protagonist. I felt like I would never be able to put it down.

What a powerful book! Ms. Erskine tackles tough topics and presents them appropriately for middle grade students. I would use this in a middle grade classroom for teaching empathy, and for teaching voice. Ms. Erskine never slipped in her character's Asberger voice.

I found it heart warming and loving and kind. It was funny at times, yet I never felt that I was laughing at Caitlin, but chuckling at the way people cannot understand her heart and mind...all the while she is working so hard at "getting it" to understand theirs. I wish I had a window into the mind of how my child's thoughts process, as she's had a learning, processing disability all her life, and she's done really well, but I often wished I really could hear her thoughts when i was struggling to have her understand the point I was trying to make. This helps me a lot. I think this is a good ready for anyone who works with or lives with or goes to school with and loves someone with any kind of difference.

It is a very well written story. It does a great of seeing the world thru the eyes of child on the Autism spectrum.

My 11 year old daughter loved it!

I liked how you could see a Girl affected with Aspergers and a death of a loved one react. It was very sad to see Kaitlin's reaction but also interesting to see what she would do to be happy. I would recommend this book to someone who likes sad and also interesting books. I rated this book 4 stars because although I thought this book was interesting, it made me very sad too.

My son had to read this book for school; he's in fifth grade. There was a school shooting and as a result, the main character's brother was killed, and the mom died before that. My son was going through a phase where he was afraid of dying, death, etc., so I wanted to read this together to be sure he was okay with it. I ended up thoroughly enjoying the book as did my son. I laughed, I felt teary-eyed a few times, and just really felt for the characters. Would definitely recommend and think it would make a wonderful movie!

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