

## **Turtles All The Way Down**

**John Green**

**Reviewed by: Xitlalli Santiago, 16**

**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be The Star You Are! Charity**

“Turtles All The Way Down,” follows Aza, a sixteen year old girl who suffers from an obsessive-compulsion and anxiety disorder. She is accompanied by her outspoken and fearless friend, Daisy. They embark on an adventure to try to figure out the mystery of missing billionaire Russell Pickett and win the 100,000 dollar reward. As they fish for clues, Aza stumbles upon her childhood friend and son of said billionaire, Davis Pickett. Aza tries to solve the mystery and maintain her relationship with Davis, while dealing with intrusive thoughts, OCD, and anxiety that try to consume her at every corner she turns.

This book was one of the most powerful and authentic stories that makes you feel the hardships that Aza feels daily. It brought light to OCD and anxiety and how it isn’t something pretty to romanticize. It shows just how much mental illness takes control of your life and relationships. It makes you realize that with all the flaws and imperfections you have, you should still try and learn to love yourself and appreciate those around you.

I would recommend this book for teenagers and young adults. It centers around a teenager, but the themes of the book, such as coming of age and how painful mental illnesses are, could resonate with many people. It teaches many important lessons, like loving yourself unconditionally and appreciating those around you, which people could learn from. I’d recommend for the book to be bought or to be given as a gift. You should buy it because there’s a lot of beautiful lines in the book that are worth revisiting from time to time.

### **Recommended Titles:**

“Girl In Pieces,” by Kathleen Glasgow

“Paper Towns,” by John Green

“The Fault In Our Stars,” by John Green