

An Abundance of Katherines

John Green

Reviewed By: Jasmine Han, 14

Star Teen Book Reviewer of the Be the Star You Are! Charity

www.bethestaryouare.org

I have always loved all of John Green's books, as they have been about unique love stories that provide an extremely emotional and captivating read. *An Abundance of Katherines* proved to be no different. Colin Singleton is a child prodigy, who strives to be a genius by finding his "eureka" moment. In his entire life, Colin has dated and been dumped by a total of 19 girls, all with the name of Katherine (all spelled the same too). After graduating from high school, he takes a moment to think about his life. Having his heart broken after recently being dumped, Colin feels lost, lonely, and upset and becomes worried that he will be stuck as a child prodigy and not a genius all his life. When his best friend, Hassan Harbish, a lazy guy who has no interest in going to college after graduating high school, learns about this slump Colin is in, he persuades him to go on a road trip to take his mind off of it. With no destination in mind, the boys drive until they come across Archduke Franz Ferdinand's grave in Gutshot, Tennessee. They stop by and meet a girl named Lindsey Lee Wells, who happens to be dating a boy named Colin Lyford (otherwise known as T.O.C), and her mom, Hollis Wells. They become friends and are offered a job by Hollis at her tampon string company to interview workers. During this time, Colin begins obsessively working on the Theorem of Underlying Katherine Predictability, which predicts how long a relationship would last and who would be the dumpee and dumper. However, he seems to have a lot of difficulty with perfecting the theorem, which proves to be flawed when Colin and Lindsey's newfound relationship does not end on the day predicted by the theorem. The making of this theorem eventually helps Colin realize that he cannot predict the future of relationships, as it is out of his control. At the end of the book, Hassan, Colin, and Lindsey become aware of their freedom and go off on a new adventure of their own.

This book was such a good read, and I liked how relatable the characters were described to be. It was not just a book made for entertaining the readers, but a book made to help readers learn more about themselves. The author was so descriptive in depicting the struggles and hardships of the characters' lives throughout the whole book. This made it exciting and easy to learn about how they overcame their own obstacles and how we could apply to this to our own lives. This book helps the readers grow as people by making them learn more about the importance of friendships and relationships, self-actualization, and staying true to themselves.

Personally, I can't say anything in particular about this book that I disliked. At the start of this book, however, it may not be quite appealing to all readers because it starts out a little slow and does not reveal the main plot of this story right away. Nevertheless, it was still very interesting to read. I feel that this book would be the most appropriate for readers in the age range of 13 or older. While the book does not contain much inappropriate content, it is more of a mature read, as this story has some underlying meanings to it. This book would be good to either

give it as a gift to someone or get it from the library. Either way, I believe the reader will enjoy it as I did.

Recommended Titles:

Fault in Our Stars by John Green

The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky

Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell