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Love, Stargirl



Synopsis

The New York Times bestselling sequel to Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli's modern-day classic *Stargirl!* *Love, Stargirl* picks up a year after *Stargirl* ends and reveals the new life of the beloved character who moved away so suddenly at the end of *Stargirl*. The novel takes the form of "the world's longest letter," in diary form, going from date to date through a little more than a year's time. In her writing, *Stargirl* mixes memories of her bittersweet time in Mica, Arizona, with involvements with new people in her life. In *Love, Stargirl*, we hear the voice of *Stargirl* herself as she reflects on time, life, Leo, and - of course - love. Don't miss Jerry Spinelli's latest novel, *The Warden's Daughter*, about another girl who can't help but stand out. Spinelli is a poet of the prepubescent. . . . No writer guides his young characters, and his readers, past these pitfalls and challenges and toward their futures with more compassion. • "The New York Times"
From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 610L (What's this?)

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Ember; Reprint edition (April 28, 2009)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (186 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #14,572 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Friendship #85 in Books > Deals in Books #1764 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

I read the original *Stargirl* in high school. It was one of the greatest literary surprises I've ever experienced and a testament to the warning not to judge a book by its cover. It remains one of my favorite books to this day. I was not aware of a sequel until I was a number of years older and I snapped it up immediately. Several readers have posted negative reviews based on the fact the title

character is now the narrator. Her enigmatic presence is punctured in the sequel as we see the world through her eyes. This is not a negative thing. It's fine to not enjoy this perspective if what you enjoyed about the first book was Stargirl as an ideal, but as a character, I felt the sequel humanized her in a way that was very positive. She's still an atypical, altruistic, even magical girl, but one who has experienced the sting of heartbreak and has sobered. Just a little. She deals with responsibility. She questions romance. She's a person and an interesting one. Her pining throughout the book for Leo, the narrator of the first novel, has been highlighted by some reviewers as a flaw. I disagree. Every one of us has experienced that before. I can look back through my own diary entries from high school and see how desperately involved I was with the fleeting romances of teenagerhood. This is a normal part of growing up and I believe the book handles it in such a way that we can all relate. The diary/letter format may throw people off as it is very different from the linear narrative of the original, but I found it interesting. I enjoy diaries and have long kept one myself, so the story felt more organic to me in this format. It won't work for everyone and that's understandable. The book isn't perfect. Many of the side characters feel phony.

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