



2003

### My Perfect Life

Emily Fry

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Sheldon, Dyan. *My Perfect Life*. Candlewick Press, 2002. ISBN 076361839. \$16.99. 201 pp.

Reviewer: Emily Fry

Reading Level: Young adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Humorous story;

Subject: Interpersonal relationships--Juvenile fiction; High schools--Juvenile fiction; Elections--Juvenile fiction; Books—Reviews;

Ella Gerard is what most high school students can only dream of being: gorgeous, popular, and dressed to kill; however, she also has the zaniest girl in school, Lola Cep, as her best friend. So when Lola's arch-nemesis, who also happens to be Ella's ex-best friend, is nominated to run for school body president, Lola nominates Ella to run against her. Ella is then thrown into a mad dash for votes and mud slinging galore. Carla Santini wants to win and will allow nothing to stand in her way, not even her ex-best friend. Thankfully, Lola has multiple plots hidden under her dangling shawl and manages to get Ella into and out of all sorts of sticky circumstances. By the end of the election, everyone's skeletons are coming tumbling out of their closets and more is on the line than just losing to Carla.

Dyan Sheldon writes a funny portrayal of high school life and the experiences that we have all gone through. It is nice to see an author who reveals the darker side of popularity in an entertaining way. While this is not a book that could be considered a literary masterpiece, it is a well written book that will provide many chuckles and some all-out roars of laughter and which will make you glad that you are no longer in high school yourself.