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Letters from Rapunzel

Angel Pearce

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Holmes, Sara Lewis. *Letters from Rapunzel*. HarperCollins, 2007. ISBN 9780060780739.
\$15.99. 184 p.

Reviewer: Angel Pearce

Reading Level: Intermediate

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Contemporary realistic fiction;

Subject: Fathers and daughters--Juvenile literature; Depression, Mental--Juvenile literature;

Gifted children--Juvenile literature; Books—Reviews;

“Once upon a time, there was a girl. Let’s call her Rapunzel.” Cadence, a modern day Rapunzel, is alone, waiting to escape her tower: Homework Club. Homework Club is not unlike the tower one finds in the classic fairy tale *Rapunzel*. What is this young girl waiting for? She is waiting for her father. She believes that an evil spell has hold of him. A spell which the doctors call Clinical Depression and her mother calls "CD".

Cadence writes letters to someone whom she believes to be her father's confidant, hoping that he will know the way to break the spell on her father. From these letters, the reader comes to know and understand this young woman as she struggles to make sense of her world. Her story will make readers laugh and many times it will make readers cry. Is there a place for Rapunzel when the world she knows is turning around? Readers will enjoy this serious but funny book about Cadence a.k.a. Rapunzel. This book would make a terrific literature circle book for fourth grade and up.