



2007

### Smiles to Go

Larysa Bordner

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Spinelli, Jerry. *Smiles to Go*. HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN 9780060281335. \$16.99. 248 p.

Reviewer: Larysa Bordner

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Contemporary Realistic Fiction; Humorous Stories;

Subject: Self-actualization (Psychology)-- Juvenile fiction; Brothers and sisters--Juvenile fiction;

Friendship--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Will Tupence is a very serious, cautious, and patient ninth grader, who thinks that he has the whole world figured out. When scientists discover that protons can die, Will begins to doubt what he knows about himself and the world around him. If protons decay, what else is possible? Along with his best friends, Mi-Su and BT, Will rides out the many changes that come his way in school, in his love life, and in his family. Through it all, he learns that even though he does not know everything, life has an unexpected way of working out.

Spinelli humorously portrays what it is like to be a freshman in high school. He allows the reader to understand Will and feel connected to each of the characters. The content is clean and engaging, so any reader from preteen to adult will enjoy following Will as he discovers what is really important in life.

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