



2009

As You Wish

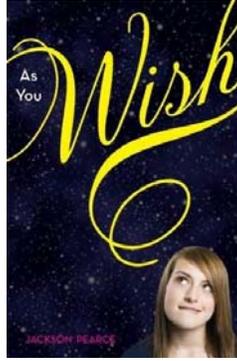
Ruth-Anne Brown

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Pearce, Jackson. *As You Wish*. HarperCollins, 2009. ISBN 9780061661525. \$16.99. 298 p.

Reviewer: Ruth-Anne Brown

Reading Level: Young adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Fiction; Fantasy fiction;

Subject: Self-esteem--Juvenile fiction; Popularity--Juvenile fiction; Genies--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

A man only Viola can see appears and demands she make three wishes. After being heartbroken when her relationship with her best friend Lawrence ends, Viola is depressed and wants nothing more than to belong. Jinn, the wish granter, only wants Viola to hurry up and make her wishes so he can return to his world, where he does not age. Regardless of his pushiness, Viola takes her time before she wishes, with Jinn bound to her until she does. As Jinn spends more time with Viola, he goes from pressuring her to grant a wish so he can return home, to wanting her to never make a wish so he can stay. Another genie from Jinn's world comes to press Viola into making her wish. Viola makes a wish to save Lawrence. Jinn is sucked back into his world, but he switches jobs to become a presser so he can visit Viola. She has been made to forget Jinn, but as he stands there with roses of every imaginable color, a memory begins to stir.

The alternating viewpoints between the main character Viola and her genie, Jinn, convey the story with personal details and a variety of viewpoints. Viola learns from her breakup that she does not have to have someone love her in order to be whole. She overcomes her self doubt and accepts herself, and her friends, regardless of popularity. The ending of the story leaves many questions to be answered, but the book has a unique plot with a well-developed protagonist.

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