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Seeing Cinderella by Jenny Lundquist

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Author: Lundquist, Jenny

Title: *Seeing Cinderella*

Year of Publication: 2012

Publisher: Aladdin Mix

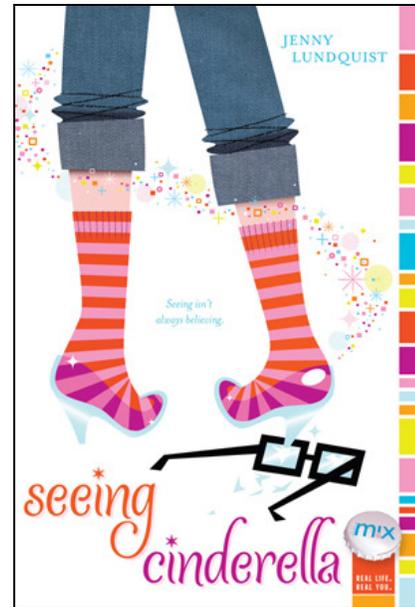
ISBN: 9781442429260

Number of Pages: 240

Rating: Excellent

Reading/Interest Level: Intermediate

Keywords: Novel; Fiction; Eyeglasses; Friendship; Fantasy; Divorce; Self Esteem; Magic



Review:

Callie is forced to start seventh grade with glasses. To make circumstances worse, the eye-doctor has to order her new lenses and she is stuck with a temporary pair of hideous glasses. However, as soon as Callie puts them on she realizes that not only can she see clearly, she can also see people's thoughts. With her new found ability, Callie begins to see past people's facades to their real intent. Although, occasionally useful Callie discovers there are drawbacks to knowing that her best friend Ellen is not as friendly as she seems, or that Callie's Mom is struggling with Callie's Dad, or that Callie's classmate Ana is in a difficult situation. But, as Callie learns to truly see people for who they are she is able to resolve her own self doubts and help those around her in the process.

Seeing Cinderella addresses several deep issues including immigration, divorce, friendship and self esteem. While Jenny Lindquist discusses each topic in depth, the light humorous tone of the narrator, Callie, prevents the subjects from becoming overwhelming. As Callie begins to understand how complicated human relationships can be, the reader effortlessly follows her thought process. Although a tad didactic, Lindquist still gives her readers the opportunity to decide how they feel about each issue. *Seeing Cinderella* is primarily aimed at middle school girls, and can provide a fun way to not only introduce more difficult topics but also spark discussion about them, making it perfect for both book clubs and mother-daughter discussions.

Reviewer: Rebecca Strein

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