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Out of the Blue

Braxton Church

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Book Review

Out of the Blue

Author

Sophie Cameron

Illustrator

Reviewer

Braxton Church

Rating

Outstanding

Level

Young Adult

Pages

266

Year

2018

Publisher

Roaring Books Press

ISBN

9781250149916

Ten days after Jaya's mother dies, angels start falling from the sky—and not a single one has survived. Eighty fallen angels later, Jaya's father drags her to Edinburgh to try and catch one. Jaya hates her father's obsession and wants nothing to do with the angels, until one falls in front of her and lives. With two new friends, Jaya helps the angel recover so she can return to wherever she fell from. But Jaya must also deal with the fact that she's betraying her father who's so desperate for a miracle. Only when the angel can fly does Jaya tell her father, learning that her father misses his wife as much as Jaya misses her mother, healing their relationship again.

The novel explores the theme of faith through one of the most beautiful parts of the novel—what it doesn't show. It never answers where the angels came from, nor why they started falling, but it shows that Jaya trusts something bigger than herself, even if she never understands what it is. Additionally, Jaya's love interest, Allie, further explores faith in an uncertain world. Allie has cystic fibrosis and doesn't know how much longer she has to live. But she doesn't let her illness prevent her from living life to the fullest. The book doesn't answer what will happen to Allie, but even in the uncertainty, Allie can find the strength to find joy in her life through her own faith. Through the unknown of the angels and of Allie, Jaya is able to live with the uncertainty that surrounds her life after her mother's death and move forward with faith.

*Contains moderate language and moderate sexual content.