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Alex As Well

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Book Review

Alex As Well

Author

Alyssa Brugman

Illustrator

Reviewer

Erica Sonzogni

Rating

Excellent

Level

Young Adult

Alex is born with both male and female body parts. When Alex was born, doctors told his parents that they would have to choose which gender they would like their child to be and then would give the baby hormones to continue that gender. Alex's parents decide that Alex would grow up being a boy. Once in high school, however, Alex realizes she is a girl, but her parents do not support this decision. In order to make her life more peaceful, Alex switches schools and must face numerous challenges between peers and various adults while she navigates through the difficult adolescence stage.

Alex As Well is a coming-of-age novel about a topic that is relevant in our changing society. Alex is conflicted between two personalities. Since Alex's parents never told her about her biological history even though the reader knows, she is even more conflicted and confused. The reader understands Alex's mom's perspective through a website where she posts her problems and others respond. The various situations experienced by the characters leads to great discussion and understanding towards students who are bigendered and facing similar challenges.

*Contains moderate language and moderate sexual content.

Pages

214

Year

2015

Publisher

Henry Holt and Company

ISBN

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