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Mostly the Honest Truth

Gabrielle Borg

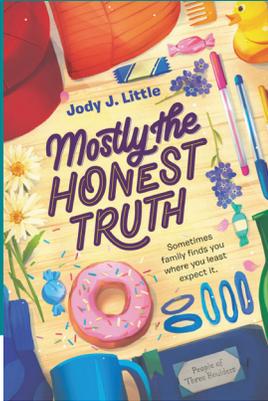
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Book Review

Mostly the Honest Truth

Author

Jody J. Little

Reviewer

Gabrielle Borg

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate,
Young Adult

Pages

259

Year

2018

ISBN

9780062852496

Publisher

Harper

Jane Pengilly has a family: Jane and Pop. Two matching socks that always stick together as a pair, and never need anyone else. But sometimes they have to spend time apart. Sometimes Pop gets sick. As Pop heads off to another round of rehab, Officer Dashell takes Jane to Three Boulders, a small community that can only be reached by hiking in. Jane doesn't want to belong and keeps counting down the days until Pop gets out of rehab and she can go home. But people keep asking questions—Officer D, the folks of Three Boulders, the social worker. Even Pop has questions. He can't seem to remember that night that Jane hurt her wrist, and Jane doesn't want to tell them the honest truth. Eventually Jane gets to know the people, and grows to like Three Boulders. But there are too many questions that go unanswered. Finally, Jane works up the courage and tells the honest truth. In the end, Jane gets to stay in Three Boulders with Pop's long-lost grandpa, Officer D, and Pop.

Mostly the Honest Truth follows the story of a girl growing up with a father who gets constantly drunk and stuck in rehab, while she is sent from one foster family to another. The honesty and sincerity of this book will draw readers in. Jody Little addresses real issues while still winding a tale that is enjoyable and thought-provoking. The characters have depth and personality. Each individual in Three Boulders is unique and so are the relationships portrayed. This book is filled with the honest truth and plenty of character. Readers will find the story captivating, heart-wrenching, and heartwarming all at the same time.

Reference to drinking, abuse, and personal harm