



2020

One Jar of Magic

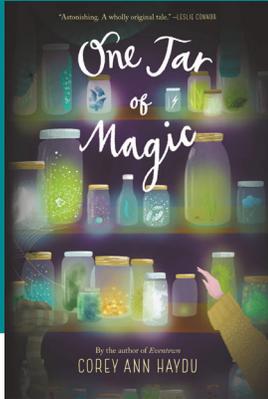
Taylor Bitton

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Book Review

One Jar of Magic

Author

Corey Ann Haydu

Reviewer

Taylor Bitton

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Rating

Outstanding

Level

Intermediate

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Pages

333

Year

2021

ISBN

9780062689856

Publisher

Katherine Tegen Books

On the night Rose was born, her father captured 161 jars of magic. Since then, he has been convinced that his daughter is destined for greatness, even giving her the nickname “Little Luck.” When Rose turns twelve, she will be able to join the town’s New Year’s Day event of capturing of magic. She’s been training for years so she can finally live up to everything her father expects of her. Then New Year’s Day arrives, and Rose captures only one tiny jar of magic. Her father is shocked and disappointed, and Rose becomes a social outcast. But as Rose grasps for a new sense of identity, she begins to learn more about magic, its flaws, and how much it has affected her family.

This story is charming and original, and it teaches important lessons. Rose faces some situations with awkwardness and others with grace, thus showing readers how to handle bullying, isolation, and disappointment and move forward into a better future. Throughout the progression of the book, Rose comes to terms with the emotional, and sometimes physical, abuse she has endured, and she finds much-needed help and begins to recover. Haydu masterfully portrays the emotions of a young girl as she grapples with what she has been taught to be true versus what she feels to be true, making this book engaging for children and adults alike.

*Contains moderate violence.