

RPHS Library Book Review:

The Summer My Life Began by Shannon Greenland



Summary:

The novel *The Summer My Life Began* the character Elizabeth Margaret, more often called EM, goes on a vacation to the Outer Banks to see her mysterious aunt who she has never even known about. After graduating as valedictorian and planning to attend Harvard in the fall, she believes this vacation is the perfect get away from her strict, proper family. During this vacation, she begins to become the person SHE wants to be and not her parents. While she gets caught up in a love triangle, she also discovers more about her family's history... and more importantly, herself!

Review:

This book had not let me down one bit and I truly believe it deserved 5 stars. Being a teenage girl and actually the same grade/age as the main character, I could really picture how she felt and her thought process. This book had both of my favorite genres, both romance and drama, sort of mystery. It definitely got me hooked from the very beginning. Everything was so descriptive, and it really made me want to BE in the book. It kept you questioning what was going on and guessing what will happen next. Not only was there mystery between the family but even with all the romance, you never really knew what was going to happen. Reading this you just seem to envy Em and want to be her.

I decided to read this book because the cover drew me in and after reading the summary, I was curious as to what the mystery and secrets were. Originally, I had thought the book would be very dramatic and not realistic at all, but it definitely surprised me. I think it really was written perfectly; it didn't start slow at all and nothing was too crazy. I had never heard of this author either but I enjoyed her writing style. It was written so well and it all weaved together perfectly. The descriptive language really makes you think of paradise. In fact, because of this I am deciding to plan my vacation to the Outer Banks in hopes that it will really be as lovely as described! After finishing this book, I immediately began to look for more books by this author and books that would be similar because I enjoyed it so much! Hopefully, you pick this book up as soon as possible because I promise it will not let you down.

Michelle Kotlowski
12th Grade