

RPHS Library Book Review:

Looking for Alaska by John Green



Summary:

This book had started off introducing a boy, Miles, who had basically longed for a new beginning; a fresh start and a chance to finally DO something, something he referred to as his “Great Perhaps”. He decides that he will be going to a boarding school in Alabama. At his new school, he finally thinks he belongs somewhere. Being away from his parents, he begins to take advantage of this new freedom. He makes new friends by the name of Alaska, Chip, Takumi, and Lara. After a serious tragedy, him and his friends begin searching for answers. And that is where he encounters his “Great Perhaps”.

Review:

Now my personal opinion, the reason behind those 4 stars, is almost a cruel reason. I enjoyed the book very much and it was almost addicting. I was never able to put it down whether it was in the hallways, in lunch, or even at work. I enjoyed it so much, from the writing style that was using to all the character’s personalities. It was all very thought out and reading it, you can clearly tell the difference from the time period the story took place in to today’s date. The character’s all had such different personalities and during certain events you can learn about them based on their actions.

The reason I had given it 4 stars rather than a full 5 was because I felt that it was a little dull. Not the book itself but the plot. I feel that the climax and turning point had been very classic. After the tragedy, it was also very slow moving. There wasn’t much suspense and the ending was not very interesting. Considering I had read other books by John Green such as *The Fault in Our Stars*, I was expecting a more dramatic problem and resolution. I wasn’t very surprised or in awe finishing the book. I enjoyed the writing very much but as the book drew to the last few pages, I was hoping for more of a jaw dropping ending; unfortunately, I was let down. If the whole ending, when the characters were searching for answers, was more edgy I think it would have easily gotten the 5 stars.

I read this book because I have enjoyed many of John Green’s books. I was, in fact, surprised because I thought I would have enjoyed the book a little bit more. What I liked the most was how there was so much diversity amongst the characters and you have never guess what kind of families they came from. It is a boarding school after all so wouldn’t you assume they all came from wealthy backgrounds and had perfect lives? Read to find out!