



TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

Where You'll Find Me by Natasha Friend Reviewed by Mia Li

Name: Mia Li

Grade: 8

Book Title: Where You'll Find Me

Author: Natasha Friend

Number of Pages: 364

Rating (on a scale of 1-5): 5/5

Character List:

- **Anna Collette:** Anna is a 14-year-old girl who seems to be caught in an unfortunate situation. Her awkward personality makes it hard for her to make new friends after her best friend left her. Her living situation doesn't help either as she lives with her dad and his young wife. In the end, she makes friends that she never thought she would make.
- **Danielle Loomis:** Danielle is Anna's former best friend. They did everything together until 8th grade, when Dani wanted to see other people. As Anna was left with random people she didn't even know, Dani went to hang out with the cheerleading team, and started talking to boys, and did everything she and Anna would make fun of.
- **Shawna Wendall:** Shawna is notoriously known in her school as being the weirdo that plucks her eyebrows until there are barely any left. Her sarcastic and loud personality scares Anna at first. However, they learn that they're more similar than most people think.
- **Marnie Collette:** Marnie is Anna's 24-year-old stepmother. Anna tries so hard in the beginning to hate her, trying to find every little flaw she could. But after a bonding trip between her and her stepmother, Anna realizes she isn't that bad. In the end, Marnie offers Anna some great advice to get her through her tough life situation.
- **Frances Collette:** After trying to commit suicide, Anna's mother resides with a close family friend until her mental state is stable. Although Anna feels as if her mother abandoned her, Frances makes sure to show that she does really love her daughter.

Review:

Anna Collette isn't having the best year. In fact, it's probably the worst year she's had. Her best friend for almost all her life just ditched her to "see new people" and she has no other friends. She's forced to sit with the weirdest people in school. Even worse, her mother is currently still not mentally stable from her recent suicide attempt, and Anna is forced to live with her dad, his very young wife, and their new baby. She feels like the whole world is against her, but what she doesn't realize is this break away from Danielle and her depressed mother might just help her. She realizes that maybe Marnie isn't really all that bad and that the weird group in school might be the perfect people to help her get through her problems.

Where You'll Find Me shows how, with the right people and attitude, you can get past the tough times you have in your life and that everything will get better. The author Natasha Friend takes you on a journey as Anna deals with important issues, such as depression and divorce, while including a bit of humor at the right times. Anna manages to stay strong through all these events in her life, which I think is the perfect example for people going through things similar to this in their lives. Natasha Friend also shows how having the right friends could help your unfortunate situation feel a bit better. I would recommend this to teens because I think it covers a lot of important issues more and more teenagers go through every day.