



Finding Katie: The Diary of Anonymous, A Teenager in Foster Care

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This appealing teen read tells the story of Katie, a teen from an abused home, and her journey through foster care.

Katie is always surrounded by wealth, but feels terribly alone because of the secret horror of her angry, abusive father. When she's thrown out of her house and put into foster care, it seems like the end of the world.

But as she moves through the foster care system, she begins to realize that she can help others. Can she, at last, find courage and strength of her own?

Finding Katie: The Diary of Anonymous, A Teenager in Foster Care Details

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From Reader Review Finding Katie: The Diary of Anonymous, A Teenager in Foster Care for online ebook

Christina Fernandez-morrow says

There are some books that make readers think that anyone with a pen and paper (or computer) can be published. This is one of those books. The plot twists are abrupt, flat and senseless, even for a diary, making it hard to believe it is a true account of events. None of the characters are developed enough to draw readers into their desire lines. Written anonymously, it is very similar in style and tone to Go Ask Alice, which seems suspect that the writers are actually different people with such similar writing styles, since both books have the same editor.

Don't waste your time on this book. There are many others that feature foster kids and give a much more realistic portrayal of what their life is like.

Felicia Jordan says

Katie is a student at a Catholic girls' school and living with her parents in a huge mansion, surrounded by wealth and luxury. Her mother is badly abused by her father, and because of her father's controlling personality, Katie herself has never really been allowed to have friends, associate with boys, or do normal teens things. She gets excited about future possibilities when she and her new friend Jennifer meet two boys, Mark and David, at a museum, and secretly begin dating. Katie's father starts paying her unwarranted amounts of attention as soon as he notices that she's becoming a young woman. Feeling starved for love, she accepts his sudden lavish attention, not realising till it's too late that he's behaving extremely inappropriately. Things come to a head when he finds out she's been dating and dumps her in a very run-down area of L.A. While Katie is praying before her planned suicide, she's found by Salvation Army man. He takes her to a shelter, and from there she gets put into foster care. This book is in 1st person in Katie's perspective. This helps the story because we can see her every thoughts and understand how she feels about all her situations and her predicament is foster care. I recommend this book to people who are interested in the foster care program and learn the ways that most children live.

Karen & Gerard says

This is a fast-moving book written as a diary of a 16-yr.-old girl who came from a wealthy family that was sexually abused by her own father who dumped her on Skid Row in Los Angeles to fend for herself. She was "rescued" by the Salvation Army and tells her story about being in foster homes and finally finding someone who wanted her so ends on a happy note. Even through it all, she show great maturity and compassion for the other kids in the foster homes she was placed in. She helped several of them by tutoring them, befriending them and caring for them. She found happiness by helping others.

Yareinis says

This book is about a girl who is having problems with her family. Her mom and her dad are having

arguments and she almost has no friends. Then when her dad throws her in to the streets and she has nobody, she goes into foster care. Her new foster mom is really lazy, her foster dad isn't almost in the house and her foster brothers and sisters are so mean! Katie is alone and that's when she has to find her courage inside of herself. I don't like how the author wrote how Katie is always having problems. I like how she wrote how Katie is trying to solve ALL the problems. This book can be found in Ms Lacy library, I forgot what book bin.

Lilmislovely345 says

this book was different. it was being told in the diary of katie a girl who was a prisoner in her own house and i know what your thinking doesn't everybody who can't go to the dance say that, but no she actually kinda but not really really was she could never leave her big luxury house, i know who would want to leave but you would if you knew you could always come back to it. and she went to catholic school (all girls) she could not even have her only friend over for 5 minutes. after a while when her father lets her start getting some freedom because he doesn't really have a choice since he's always out of town she invites over 2 boys and her friend to hang out. nothing too bad all this while her mom and dad start to fight and he (abusive) soon he throws her out on the corner somewhere and she.....

Nasima says

Finding Katie: The Diary of Anonymous

Have you ever imagined being abused by someone who loves you like a father?

Have you thought about how it might feel or what other children might have to go through everyday? What it would be like to be a foster child? Well Katie a 16-year-old girl has had a lot going through her. She is born around a family with wealth and luxury. Sometimes that's not an easy thing. She goes to a catholic school and her life with her family isn't that great. Her dad does not get along with her and her mom doesn't as well. Her father abuses her all the time and her mother does, too. Her mom was an alcoholic and is very sick and just always is in her room. And her dad is working and comes home late. She lives her life as it is, but then slowly it changes. Her relationship with her father turns better. She gets along with him and gets to know him a lot more. He starts to like her and takes her everywhere and gets her everything. And she tries to get along with her mother and tries talking to her and it helps because then she got to know her mom better. But then she sees a guy and he becomes her boyfriend. She is super excited and he invites her to a party and she goes but has to sneak out. Later her dad finds out and throws her on skid row in Los Angeles. She is about to kill herself until a nice man that works at salvation army takes her to a foster care where she has to live with foster parents. She appreciates and likes to be with her foster parents because she feels that she can help people and she can be there for people. She becomes happy later on and starts to love her life.

Manoja K. says

I used to read some of these books when I was in middle school and I loved them because of the message and how real they were.

But I'm older now and I don't find them as intriguing as I once did. I was a great fan of it, but I can see why

some people would really enjoy this. I don't find it a great account of what foster care is really like, but it's interesting to see how this one girl who was neglected by her family went on to take care of her foster-siblings. I like the girl in it and how she functions to her new situation.

I would recommend this book to and pre-teen girl (and maybe some high school girls).

Dana says

I had trouble believing that this was a true story, or based on a true story. The main character, "Katie", is being sexually abused by her father, and when she finally tells someone, she is kicked out of her home and placed in foster care. For a girl who was "surrounded by wealth" and supposed friends, it made me wonder why she didn't call either her extended family, or her many friends and ask them for help or a place to stay. The fact that Katie "got lost in the system" was also incredibly unbelievable, especially since she was placed in a foster home that was just a few miles from where she grew up.

Her courage in helping others in her situation, while it sounded like a heroic thing, seemed a bit forced.

All in all, while this did open my eyes to the foster care world, I've read better fiction books that dealt with the same topic 100 times better and with more reality!

Cabrielle Rudisill says

I have very mixed emotions concerning this read, which makes writing this review very difficult. I really wanted to love this book. To begin with, allow me to give you a snap shot of the story. Katie is the daughter of a wealthy Hollywood couple who lives a relatively sheltered and pampered (albeit ignored) life until she gets close to her 16th birthday. Katie's life then quickly veers off course as her father begins developing an unhealthy interest in her developing body and her mother grows more distant. Her life completely derails when her father, jealous over her new relationship with a boy, drives her to skid row and kicks her out of the car. Katie then becomes one of thousands of foster care children. Her world changes dramatically as she struggles to cope with the loss of her family, the trauma of her father's actions and her own sense of self.

This book is a quick read; I read the entire novel in an afternoon. However, there is a reason it is so quick. The novel is choppy, has dramatic shifts in the span of a few sentences and then abruptly has a (unbelievable) happy ending. My main issues with this book come from the sugary version of events, not to minimize the horror of a child living through events like these. The sugary aspects come in with the instant bonds she forms with other foster children, the way she refuses to think ill of her (sometimes horrible) foster parents and the unrealistic happy ending. I do not want to give away the ending but I will say it is not realistic for children who have been through the types of trauma that lead to foster care to be so willing to embrace happiness instantly.

The bottom line on this book; it is a quick read concerning an important topic but it does not paint a realistic picture from any angle. I cannot in good faith recommend this book to anyone. Such a bummer for us all, it had such potential in the title.

Shayla says

This is yet another one of Beatrice Sparks's fictional diaries with angsty titles. It was a quick, easy, and utterly unsatisfying read. The main character flaunted her wealth, considered herself above everyone else, and complained about everything under the sun. And the characters Cha and Belva were entirely unnecessary to the plot; they were present for about five pages and then were never mentioned again. Overall, it was a horrible book and I was more than happy to take it back to the library.

Eva Leger says

I couldn't finish this book. I got to a little before halfway and was so disgusted I had to stop. These can't be real diaries. There's just no way. I've always fought against that notion- I tend to trust people until I have a reason to lose that trust. But these books are all the same, the same exact way of using words, the same exact words in a lot of cases, everything is the same except for the plot. One is pregnant, one is in foster care, one is this and one is that.

One day the girls dad gives her some "white candies". Has anyone else, besides maybe a one year old, mistaken a pill for candy? I haven't. It's not even possible. A blind person would know the difference. Then in the span of a few hours she gets so addicted to these "candies" that she has to have more- give her MORE! Please. Drugs are addictive yeah. I know that, trust me. But I also know it doesn't happen quite that fast. Sparks should have done a little research before writing. Yuck.

Shyla says

This book was "edited" or written by Beatrice Sparks, the same person who brought us It happened to Nancy and Go ask Alice. Supposedly she takes teens diaries who have been through challenging and life changing experiences and edits them to publish. She has done several of these type of books and when I was a teen I loved It Happened to Nancy and Go ask Alice so whether they are true or not (and there is a big controversy over this issue) I think they are good to read. I was really looking forward to this book about Katie, a girl grows up in Beverly Hills and has everything except the love and attention of her parents. Her father is downright abusive and horrible and her mother lives in a pill induced dream world. Eventually things escalate with her father and she ends up in foster care. The book or diary chronicles Katie's journey from an abusive and dysfunctional family and homelife to being homeless to several sad and often scary foster homes. While an uplifting tale of how she makes it and helps others along the way I couldn't help but find many of the events unbelievable. While the other books I read by the same author were somewhat sensational in content they were also haunting and read like my very own diary so it was easy to believe they were in fact authentic. This book was somewhat cutesy and lacked the depth I thought it would have as they other did. All in all a great read for young girls with a good lesson but not nearly as sincere and touching as the first two I read.

Also, I am now a 29 year old woman rather than a young teen girl so perhaps that is another reason it was hard for me to swallow. Perhaps if I were to read It Happened to Nancy or Go Ask Alice now I would find them lacking as well. Good books for the teens they were intended for.

Miranda Stephenson says

Another good book that's hard to put down. Can be confusing at times. It's a book that reminds you to be thankful for what you have. When this girl goes through foster care she is still not treated the greatest by her

"foster dad" I don't think I understand why all of it is happening. It's kind of like a love type story when she sees a boy, but of course she isn't allowed to be with him because her dad doesn't allow it.

Andrea says

Katie is brought up with lots of money and has everything that a girl could want, at least materialistically. The problem with her life, is she really doesn't have a life her parents really don't care about her, and she is so sheltered from the real world, she goes to an all girls school and than home, thats it. Finally Katie seems to be moving up when she actually has a friend and they hang out after school and then she gets a boyfriend. When her father finds out though he sends her to a foster home and she must fight her way through the system and many different homes.

This was a good book, not one i would read again but it was good. I really liked the ending, which is surprising it was so typical but with the context before it and all that this poor girl went through I found myslef really ruiting for her and hoping she would get a life that she deserved.

Gabriellewilliams says

now this is a great book. katie is.....sooo deep. her story is heart wwarming. Katie really changed my whole reading life. i am so happy I read this book.. Every-one can relate to Katie. This book thought me to be a better person. It really opened my eyes. Yes, there were drama, but it was real life, hard knock situation drama. Not like the supersituation drama. the drama is heart felt and will make you cry. the people she meets and there stories are just so true and brutal. i recommend this book to people who love real-life situations, diary books and people trying to change others for the better.
i love this book :)

E.l.a homework

Dear Katie,

Hello Katie, my name is Gabrielle Williams. I found your diary on 31st street in California. Katie you are a great person. Do not be mad, but I read your diary. I know I invaded your privacy, but I could not help it; I am a nosy person. Your life story is incredible. The people you met are dynamic people. I barely know you but I look up to you. Your diary changed my life. The way, you took an interest in Donita, Lacy, and Jennipher was really great. It sounds like you really changed those girls' lives. I know this is a personal question, but how does it feel to go from filthy rich to street kid to Foster child? The transitions must have been hard I know you are a strong person. I love how you treated everyone with respect even though they did not treat you well. You are a true woman and I admire that about you. Spite your parents you were raised well. How does it fell to have such an ass of a father? I know that was brutal, but I would like to know. I want to know every thing about you. I feel really close to you because our birthdays are a day apart. Another question I really wanted to ask is another tough one. Why did you lie about your age? That was somewhat stupid in my book. If you told the truth, you would not feel like you lived a lie. How can you go on with that dirty feeling? I hate it, when I am lied to or if I lie to someone. It makes me feel guilty. Did you feel guilty at all? Why didn't you tell anyone abut your previous life? I think it might have been better if you didn't lie and told the child protective service everything they wanted to here. Your dad deserves to be in jail. He is an abusive monster that beat your mom down physically and mentally. What he did to you was also unexplainable. You are a teenager, so what if you sneaked out of the house for a good time out. You didn't deserved what happen too you. I want you to know you were not wrong for what you did. You deserved a lot

more freedom you got living in that mansion. The most punishment you should have gotten was no pool for a week. I hope you know that your mother was never jealous of you and always loved you. I can tell your mom was just hurt because of your dad's abuse. Your dad manipulated you into thinking she was a bad mother. You are a good girl and were back then too. We all make mistakes. Maybe what happened was a good thing, in retrospect because you changed those little girls' lives. Donita is a happy toddler now, because of you. Lacy is happy in a family with a new mother that loves. You are just liked the old King Midas everything you touch turns to gold. You even helped out your teachers with the classes you were in you are a smart, beautiful women and don't let anyone tell you other wise. I hope you are happy now. I hope you are living a happy life because you deserve it Katie. Your new mother sounds great and I wish you guys the best. Please, please go to college and don't let your intelligence go to waste. To all those birthdays that weren't acknowledged happy birthday, I hope you like the card and bag of cookies. Thank you Katie for opening up my eyes. I see that it doesn't matter where you come from or what happened in your life. You can still live a successful, happy, fore filled life. I hope that I can meet you.

Yours truly,
Gabrielle Amani Williams

Gabrielle Williams June 17th, 2009

Book Shout-Out

The book is fabulous. Finding Katie is about a teen girl's struggles. Katie is fifteen in the beginning of the book but is eighteen toward the end. Katie's real family is rich. She went to the best catholic school in California. Katie's dad is a troubled man. One day he flipped on Katie for sneaking out. He dropped her on the streets and let her fend for herself. Katie meets a nice man that works for Child protective services. She taken to a foster home and see and hear things horrible. Girls like Donita, Melba lacy and Jennipher makes living in a foster home bare able to live at her homes. In the end, she finally finds a home with a guardian that loved her.

Since I finished the book, the image I see is Katie and her new mom walking on the beach and laughing. In the end, she got her happy conclusion and that was great. I love it when a book keeps your sprits high. That image is still plastered in my head, today.

The book is so deep and inspiring. This book could really change a person. Katie is a real person. Katie is a role model for all young girls out there. The storyline is not only true, but also eyed watering. Katie is a real person, with real problems. She issues aren't super fiscal and fake they are real and true. Finding Katie had dynamic characters and they really inspire you. Well at least the good ones.

This book changed the way I see the world in many ways. I never thought that someone that can be so fortunate could become so poor and unlucky. This book showed me that you could be unfortunate and still changed people's lives. You don't need to act out because of your past. You can become better from your past. I learned to never just a book by its cover. I literally judged Finding Katie and thought it was boring. I was really wrong.