ANYTHING but typical

By: Aubrey

ANYTHING but typical was written by Nora R. Baskin. She is an amazing writer. One message in this book is to respect people’s differences. The main character is named Jason; he is 12 and has autism. His go-to website is called storyboard. It’s a website where can write stories and post them for other people to read. Jason is one of the few people who writes his own stories and doesn’t copy off of someone else. He gets to go to their convention in Dallas, Texas. He has always wanted to go to that convention. His friend, Rebecca (PhoniexBird), is going there, too. Jason is scared that she won’t like him any more if she finds out he is autistic. Throughout the story Jason, because of his autism, faces many challenges. Eventually Jason never wants to write again.

The characters in this story ALL have completely different emotions. Jason’s mom is very sensitive and can be over-dramatic. She is sensitive when Jason doesn’t bury his face in her coat, like his brother, when she leaves (he can’t breathe when that happens). Jason’s dad is kind of a go-with-the-flow kind of guy. He’s a guy who always says “It’s fine.” or “It will be okay.” His little brother, Jeremy is just a kid, just an everyday kid. Rebecca is a sweet kind girl.

I like ANYTHING but Typical because of many reasons. One reason is that it has flashback moments many times though out the story. Also I love how Jason thinks. “Every morning I get up, a new word pops into my head.” says Jason (if you are wondering this was the first sentence in chapter three). My next reason is because it teaches the reader that looks are deceiving. My last reason for loving this book is that Jason faces many challenges ten times worse than most of ours, it basically says our problems are small. My favorite quote from this book is what the back cover says, “Nerotypicals like it when you look them in the eye. Just because you are not looking doesn’t mean you are not listening. I can listen better when I am not distracted by their face: What are their eyes saying? Is that a frown or a smile? Why are they wrinkling their forehead or lifting their cheeks like that? What does that mean? How can you listen when you have to think about all that stuff?

This book is good for people who like learning lessons in books or for someone who is or ever has been worried about fitting in. ANYTHING but Typical is good for readers who like lessons because it has many lessons in it. Also, it’s good for readers who are or have been worried about fitting in because it tells you will find a friend and they will be happy they’re your friend. This book’s title says it all about itself. There is no other book like ANYTHING but Typical.