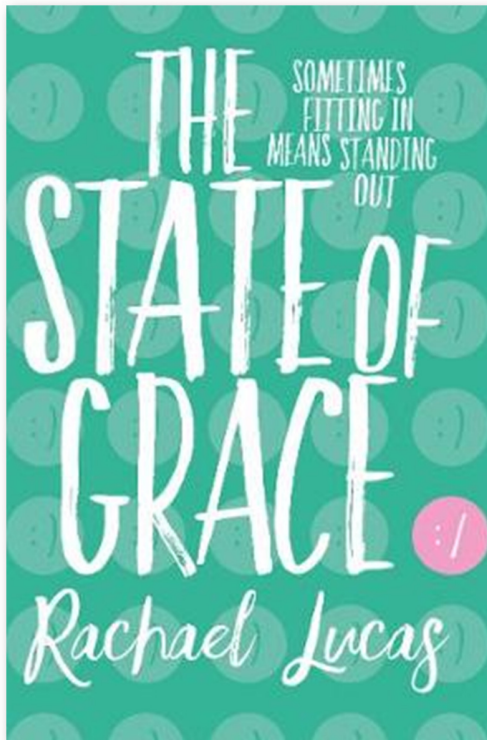


LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of
The State of Grace
by Racheal Lucas

Below are the complete reviews, written by the LoveReading4kids members.



Celeste Phelan, age 15

A unique and honest novel taken from the perspective of a girl with Asperger's - like nothing I've read before.

Grace should be sailing through the stereotypical ordinary teenage life and although she endeavours to fit in, she still manages to attract trouble. With her emotions intensified due to her Asperger's her life is anything but easy. But with a reliable and understanding best friend and a horse she is obsessed with she basically has everything she wants.

However, after kissing the infamous and popular Gabe, Grace's life begins to fall apart as she realizes how precariously balanced her world is. With her mum partying and drinking away with her so called 'friend' Eve and her sister in a downward spiral, Grace must fix it all alone.

Grace is a very headstrong, decisive and independent character sometimes although her intensified emotions frequently get in the way of what she loves.

I think 'The State of Grace' gives the reader a peek into the life of someone living with Asperger's and the use of a teenager who can already be very hormonal and temperamental fantastically makes Grace more relatable. I would defiantly recommend this novel to girls 10+ as it is a very thought provoking and fresh novel.

Megan Chambers, age 15

***This book was absolutely wonderful, I couldn't put it down!** It gives a wonderful insight into how someone with Asperger's may feel in their daily life. The plot was slow to begin with however it did pick up later in the book, so I would recommend that you just keep on reading, as it gets better. The book was a quick read for me, which I really liked, and I managed to read it within a day. **The characters were really well written, and were easy to relate to, making the story very enjoyable.** Overall I would recommend this book to others.*

Talia Jacobs, age 15

A lovely, heart-warming easy read, perfect for reluctant readers and book works alike! Beautiful plot, loveable characters, and truly a book that shows you exactly what teenage life is like.

It gives you an accurate insight into teenage life and has very realistic, some particularly loveable characters, and on top of these things, this novel also gives the reader a detailed understanding on the struggles of everyday life for children, teens, and adults with autism.

The plot of this book is quite steady throughout the majority of the novel, though there is a big exciting, and rather nerve-racking, twist near the end that will leave you turning the pages late into the night.

The witty main character, Grace, is a teenage girl with Asperger's. With her, you can experience what it's like to live with Asperger's, and learn that she isn't that different from an average teen; she still has insecurities and makes sarcastic comments and worries about what people think of her. Really she just wants to fit in whilst still being unique and original.

The writing and description is beautiful but also funny and not too challenging for teens- it is the perfect easy read.

Overall, I loved this book, and I think you will too! From the delightful writing, to the adorable characters, to the heart-warming ending. Once you pick up this book be ready to zoom through it and not put it down!

Sidney Greenslade, age 13

'The State of Grace' is a moving story about how a girl, who struggles to deal with change, copes when life keeps throwing new

and often amusing situations at her.

'The State of Grace' is a touching, funny and insightful story about the life of sixteen year old Grace, a girl who has to live with Asperger's. Grace feels different from everyone else. She dislikes being around most other people, and the only people who seem to be able to put up with her are her best friend Anna and her family. So a huge party doesn't sound ideal to Grace, even if it is rumoured the party of the year. But somehow Grace ends up at Charlotte's party, ends up playing Spin the Bottle, ends up kissing Gabe. After that, things change, and Grace isn't sure she likes change. She isn't sure at all...

'The State of Grace' is a fantastic book, at some points making me double over laughing - it was funny whilst also being thought-provoking. It truly made you think about what it would be like, having to put up with Asperger's Syndrome, and having people look at you in a different way. I loved the characters, especially bouncy, funny Anna and Grace's sweet horse, Mabel. I really think this book could be a bestseller and I will certainly recommend and read again!

Grace Spear, age 14

This book was beautifully told and gave you an insight into how an autistic person thinks. I felt everything that the characters felt giving a strong connection to the book.

"Being a human is a complicated game - like seeing a ghost in the mirror trying to echo everything they do."

This is the first line of this book. Grace is a fifteen year old girl with Asperger's and like most teenagers is trying to fit in. As she falls for Gabe the cute popular boy she tries to change herself to be liked. Her outlet only is riding her horse Mabel. Grace's sister is struggling and all of a sudden everything hits Grace hard and all at once.

This book was beautifully told and gave you a huge insight into how an autistic person thinks. I enjoyed reading about when she rides her horse and how she feels as she rides her. My favourite character is Grace's Grandma because she seems to fix a lot of Grace's problems and makes her see clearly. The connection she has with her sister is relatable to anyone who has a sibling, and I love how they share secret jokes together. I'd recommend this book to anyone who is in high school because it's very relatable.

Rebekah Marsh, age 14

Truly magnificent. The book portrays the amazing relationship between family and friends and that even if things seem rocky and unfixable, your family will always be by your side to support you.

This truly amazing book had just the right proportions of laughter, tears, and joy embroiled within an amazing story line, including a myriad of beautifully written characters. I had trouble putting the book down for numerous days.

Neha, age 13

'The State of Grace' is a very relatable novel for teens. The situations presented make you laugh, cry, cringe, and dance along with the main character. I recommend this book to any teenage girl!

It is about a girl living with Asperger's. Although many teens may not have Asperger's, they will be able to relate to the book through the typical teenager troubles she experiences. The book doesn't give you a chance to feel sympathetic towards Grace due to her disability, but because of the different situations she's caught up in. This is why I liked the book. I had expected it to be based mainly around her disability; how she learns to cope with it; how her family, friends and teachers help her cope with it, but it was about a girl, like any other teenager, who has her crushes, fan-girling, protectiveness over her sister. I do recommend this book for teenage girls because I felt the book was quite inspirational.

Emily Price, age 14

Thoroughly enjoyed 'The State of Grace'. I felt that this novel took many twists and turns throughout it. Lucas demonstrated the characters very well.

A very unique novel with a touch of romance. I highly recommend this book and really enjoyed it!

Humaira, age 18

'The State of Grace' was sweet and heart-warming, sad but empowering. There needs to be more books like this. I highly recommend this book.

Edel Waugh

This was an intriguing story about a teenager called Grace who has Asperger's. Not being familiar with Asperger's this was a fascinating look into the life of a teenager who had experience with this. I love that we see the story from Grace's perspective so we see how it affects her day to day life at school and hear the thoughts and fears going around in her head as she interacts with others, and how everyday pressure and stress affect her and what helped her during those times.

*Grace is a sweet girl with a big heart who loves her family and friends and animals but I think she struggled with her dad not being around much which felt like it made her more anxious. **This was an awesome story with a delightful and inspirational main character. I would recommend this book to everyone.***

Jodi Coffman, age 15

*Grace is a fifteen year-old living with Asperger's. She is funny and plain-spoken but doesn't understand how everyone else seems to know what to say and when to say it. All she wants is to fit in, especially when she finds out that the cutest guy in school likes her. She finds herself becoming a part of the popular crowd, and struggles to come across as cool. With her dad away and her mum distracted with an old friend, Grace is the only one who is aware of her sister's troubles. Everything threatens to fall apart and it's up to Grace to sort things out. I really enjoyed this book and recommend it to any teenagers. It was extremely interesting to read a book from the perspective of a girl with Asperger's as it challenged stereotypes and common misconceptions. **'The State of Grace' was a really funny and honest book and I couldn't put it down.***