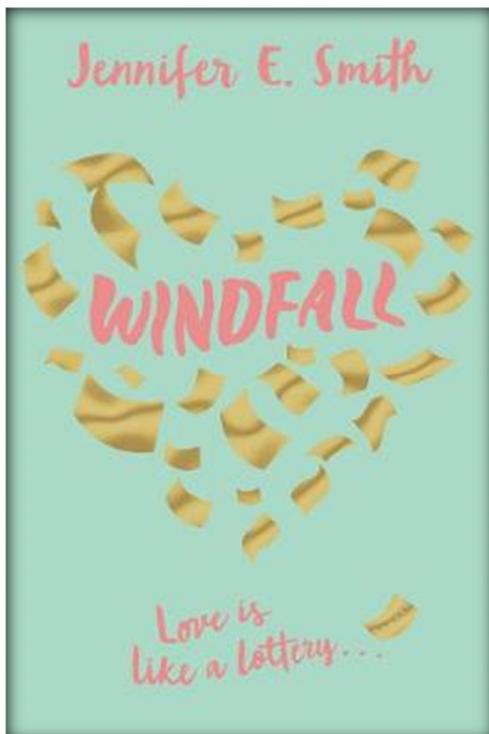


LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **Windfall** by Jennifer E Smith

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



Susanna Wagstaff, age 14

'Windfall' is an amazing book! Two best friends go from ordinary high schoolers to lottery winners and their journey is definitely a rough one!

'Windfall' is an amazing book from start to finish. It tells the tale of two best friends who go from ordinary high schoolers to lottery winners. Through heartbreak, arguments, and betrayal, Teddy and Alice must decide how to spend the money and what matters most. I really enjoyed this book because the characters are relatable and funny; each one is different and really well developed creating an atmosphere which seems so real. I think it would appeal to many different readers as so many

different themes are explored such as love, friendship, and tragedy. I felt as though I was a part of the story when reading it and thoroughly enjoyed it, I will definitely be checking out some more of Jennifer Smith's books!

Jenny Duffy, age 23

Sweet and sad, with a very likeable and engaging protagonist, and a strong cast of characters this is a book I definitely connected with.

The only luck life's ever given Alice is the bad kind. But when she buys her best friend (and secret crush) Teddy a lottery ticket for his 18th birthday, it turns out to be a winning one. Suddenly Teddy is a millionaire; his life has been

completely changed. The money is a blessing, but in some ways it is also a curse. And there are some things even money can't buy...

Sweet and sad, with a very likeable and engaging protagonist, and a strong cast of characters this is a book I definitely connected with. Smith explores how the past and families can affect us, and what home really means. It is a heartfelt book, particularly as we see how the loss of Alice's parents affects her and how she is caught between the past and the present. It also explores making decisions about college and the future, and finding out who you really are and what you really want. I loved Alice's cousin Leo, and his relationship with his boyfriend Max. While I felt things came together a bit too nicely at the end, this was a book I enjoyed and certainly one I will be recommending.

<https://thebookstheartandme.wordpress.com>

Aimee Sweet, age 15

*A simple concept that not many people take the time to think about: what would you do if you won the lottery? And I'm not talking about the standard lottery winnings- I'm thinking of the jackpot. Millions upon millions of pounds are won across the world by few lucky individuals. But what many don't consider is if it is luck or if it's something else entirely? Smith explores this in her new book, *Windfall*, when Alice buys a lottery ticket as a one-off for her best friend's birthday. The events that unravel are so spectacular that I found myself thinking that fate isn't such a weird idea any more. I read this book (bearing in mind it was over 400 pages) in less than a day- it was so easy to read but funny and engaging at the same time. I recommend any young adult to pick it up as it's the type of book you could leave on the side and would still be loved months later. **I found myself laughing out loud and pining for the characters as if they were my friends. Loved it!***

Imogen Breaks, age 14

Alice, Leo and Teddy are three ordinary teenagers living in an ordinary town in San Francisco. However when Alice buys a lottery ticket for Teddy's 18th birthday something extraordinary happens.

Teddy and his mum have always been short of money but now that's not a problem with the 140 million jackpot behind them. Although is this money a blessing or curse? Alice and Teddy have leaned on each other throughout their hard times like when Alice's parents died in a car crash and Teddy's father

abandoned him, however money gives you a blurred vision of the world and the thing that can only pull him back to reality is Alice but this is easier said than done. I really enjoyed this book but would have preferred it to move at a quicker pace. It didn't always captivate my imagination but would probably appeal to somebody who enjoys an easy going romantic novel. I would rate it a 6/10 and recommend it to readers 12 and above.

Megan Abbott, age 18

Heart-warmingly good! This is a story about friendship, growing up and a little bit of luck, and I thoroughly enjoyed reading it. Alice is in love with her best friend, Teddy. On his eighteenth birthday she buys him a lottery ticket on a lark. To their astonishment, he wins \$140 million, and in an instant, everything changes. Throughout both of their turbulent pasts, Teddy and Alice have leaned on each other. But now, as they negotiate the ripple effects of Teddy's newfound wealth, a gulf opens between them. And soon, the money starts to feel like more of a curse than a windfall. I found their friendship so relatable as it reminded me of all the amazing memories I have of my friends at school. Also, the main character really did remind me of myself, especially the confusing decisions of picking a university, so this aspect will definitely appeal to anyone undergoing the same choices, as it makes you feel like you aren't alone. I loved the aspect of romance that didn't consume the overall plot line, as well as the fact that the originality of the plot is unlike any other young adult novel that I have read. I would definitely recommend.

Katie Adeniji, age 16

'Windfall' is a wonderful coming-of-age book about life and young love that is perfect for any reader looking for something to restore their belief in luck. Revolving around the time in a teenager's life when things are seriously changing, 'Windfall' is a refreshing tale of how someone who has been dealt the worst hand, somehow comes out with the best. I found this book to be a light but relatable book that drew me in by showing that extraordinary things could happen to the ordinary.

Windfall is a wonderful coming-of-age book about life and young love that is perfect for any reader looking for something to restore their belief in luck, and is something I would definitely recommend to a friend.

<http://ultradreamologistblog.tumblr.com>

Sophia

Wow! This was an amazing book. Kept me on my toes, as I wanted to find out if they both fell in love and what happens with the winnings. Epic read!! I would defiantly recommend.

This is the story of 3 friends. It's told from Alice's point of view she's 18 and other her and her friend Leo are going to meet up with long-time friend Teddy who Alice fancies, badly. She buys him a lottery ticket for his birthday and out of sheer luck he wins \$141.3 million dollars. This is such a shock to him and his mom. But what will happen next?

Laura Solomon, age 13

*Alice and Teddy's lives have been no stranger to tragedy and misfortune, but when luck stumbles into their stories, what will happen and will their friendship wither, survive or thrive? As if this story could be even more complicated, Alice also has uncontrollable feelings for Teddy. The problem? He`s her best friend. This book explores deep feelings of love, regret and loss. Undeniably traumatised from her parents inexplicably sudden deaths, Alice moves towards the next chapter of her life... while everything she`s ever known changes around her. **A heart-warming novel, perfect for feel-good film lovers.***

Rose Heathcote, age 17

‘Windfall’ is a heart-warming but thought provoking book about a boy who wins the lottery with a ticket his a best friend buys him. I would highly recommend this book.

*I really enjoyed this book it showed the reality of winning the lottery in a very different light to what we hear on the news every day. I liked that it was written in first person from the main character Alice who buys her friend the ticket. She made me feel involved emotionally to her story and worries. However, the story towards the end was a little predictable and had a soppy love story ending. I would give the book 4 stars *****.*

Naz, age 20

‘Windfall’ makes for a fantastic, laughter-filled and uplifting adventure that explores young romance, friendship, embracing change, and fate. As always, Jennifer E. Smith is the Queen of Contemporary.

I think we’ve all either been asked, or have asked the question ‘what would you do if you won the lottery?’ Alice buys a ticket for her best friend, Teddy, on his 18th birthday as a joke and they actually win. They hit the jackpot, winning millions and millions. Alice and Teddy both had rough childhoods. For Alice, her parents died a year apart, which has made her fear change. For Teddy, it was an absent father with a gambling addiction. Winning the lottery is the best thing that could have happened – at least, that’s what Teddy thinks. Alice on the other hand isn’t so sure and this makes for a fantastic, uplifting adventure that explores young romance, friendship, embracing change, and fate. As always, Jennifer E. Smith is the Queen of Contemporary. Jennifer E. Smith is a wonderful writer, and ‘Windfall’ is no exception.

www.enchantedbookcase.blogspot.co.uk

www.twitter.com/snazzyreads

Kyra, age 17

‘Windfall’ by Jennifer E. Smith is sensational. Breathtakingly hopeful, utterly inspiring and brilliantly evocative - I fell in love with it. If you read one book this year, make sure it's this one.

‘Windfall’ is a beautifully compelling read with characters harbouring hearts spun from sun rays and starlight, melodic writing, incredible family dynamics and poignant moments that will have tears streaming down your face and laughter bubbling from your lips. Once you've finished this book you'll find an ignited spark within you that will have you wanting to paint the world with love, kindness, and happiness. It also didn't contain crude language or inappropriate scenes which made me love the book even more!

<http://www.blogofabookaholic.blogspot.com>

Humaira, age 18

I was so thrilled that I had got ‘Windfall’ but it has let me down.

*I read about a quarter until I had to put it down and stop reading. **The***

writing didn't pull me in.

I was so thrilled that I had got a copy of Windfall but it has let me down. I read about a quarter until I had to put it down and stop reading. The writing didn't pull me in like most books and I felt like it was going to be boring and clichéd. I had been reading this book for days and I was getting nowhere- I just wasn't enjoying which was such a shame because it was one of my most anticipated books of 2017. I'm sure it is a good book and that someone will like it- I feel like I just wasn't in the mood for a YA contemporary romance.

Emily Price

'Windfall' is a classic love story and is very moving. Lots of humour throughout this novel. Very much chic-flick. Loved it!

Edel Waugh

The story is about two friends, Alice and her friend Teddy. It's coming up to Teddy's 18th birthday and she buys him a lottery ticket and he wins!

*The story shows us the ups and downs of something like this happening and how it can hinder or grow a friendship, the complications that can arise and the strength needed to know your friends from your enemies when everyone is smiling at you wanting to be your best friend. I really liked Teddy, he was a rogue with a big heart that he had well-hidden and Alice complimented the friendship by being more open and grounding for him. **I really enjoyed the story, the plot was great and original! I recommend this to anyone who likes a story about unusual situations people find themselves in.***

