

## LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of One by Sarah Crossan

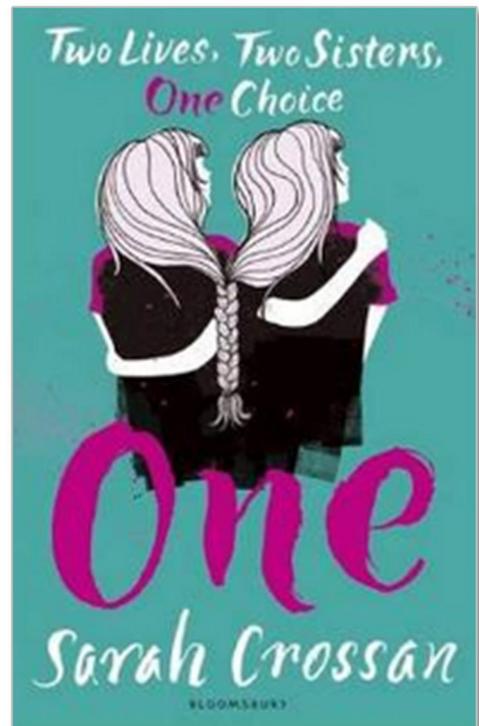
Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

### Helen Marshall

***I loved this book. It was so terribly sad.***

*Tippi and Grace are conjoined twins; they are two very different personalities but are literally joined at the hip and share a pair of legs. They defeat the odds of surviving through childhood, and the story starts as they are teenagers starting school for the first time (up until this point they have been home schooled). There they make friends with Yasmeen and Jon who help them cope with all the staring and hostility from the other students. Grace finds herself falling in love with Jon, but how can this possibly work out? Through the book we learn about the twins' unbreakable relationship with each other, and how they make brave, life changing decisions. I liked the way that you really get a sense of the*

*way the twins and their problems dominate the lives of everyone in their family. What is it like being the separate sister? How does it feel being the Dad and not being able to earn enough to provide everything the twins need? How does the mum keep going when she's so worried about losing the twins that she doesn't even notice that her other daughter is suffering? The book is written to look like a series of poems, but reads just like very direct prose, so don't let that put you off. **It's a great book that really celebrates people's differences and the strength of love between two sisters.***



### Ellen Faulkner, Age 13

***I cried my heart out at this stunning novel, by the 'One' and only Sarah Crossan. I think that this book should be compulsory reading for all secondary age pupils.***

*When I found out I would receive a copy of One, I got really excited. After reading 'The Weight Of Water' and 'Apple and Rain', I knew that I would be in for an emotional ride.*

*When I received it, life unfortunately got in the way, and so I had to find a day of which I could spend just reading. When I got round to it, I couldn't put it down, not even when it was time for tea!*

*Grace is such a compelling character, and I really felt her guilt at hurting Tippi. Watching them deal with life infused me with raw emotion and the ending made me cry. I now have so much compassion for conjoined twins. It is so amazing to watch characters grow realistically, and I feel that that is something many authors cannot achieve. Sarah Crossan obviously fits into that rare kind of storyteller, and there are very few books that can really make a difference to me. Sarah Crossan has done that, not only once, but thrice, I also love the poetic style of writing, which really tells a story. Overall, an amazing book that I think should be compulsory reading for all secondary school pupils.*

**Rebekah Marsh, Age 12**

***With this book the emotions come flowing out while you follow the heart-warming tale of Tippi and Grace, the conjoined twins.***

*'One' shows how strong the bond between two sisters truly is. It makes everybody wish they had a sister or tell their sister they love them. It shows how 'conjoined twins' are human beings too and they are no different inside than we are, if anything, they are lucky to share that type of bond with somebody.*

**Poppy, Age 16**

***'One' is a touching book that rings with truth. The girls are relatable, even when you couldn't imagine the position they are in.***

*The trials they face are difficult, but as long as they are together it will not faze them. But when they are faced with the hardest decision of their life, what will they do?*

**Humaira Kauser, Age 17**

***This book is quite something. I've never read anything like it- it's so different, refreshing and totally original.***

*'One' by Sarah Crossan is so original and unique. It's unlike anything I've ever read. I really recommend this book to everyone. (I'm making my sister read this book as I type!)*

*I read this book in a very short amount of time. I started it in the early hours of the morning and I've just finished it this afternoon. It's a quick and easy read.*

*I really adored Tippi and I had a soft spot for Dragon and Grace.*

*Seriously everyone should read this book because it's about two girls who just want to be accepted as people and individuals.*

*Thoroughly enjoyed this book. Absolutely loved it.*

### **Francesca Hughes, Age 13**

***Where do I begin ... This book captured my heart. It was lyrical, emotional and funny. Perfect for fans of John Green and Rainbow Rowell.***

*The Book to read in Summer 2015! A wonderful novel about Sisterhood, modern families and finding friendship and love.*

*The characters were so real and likeable. I really hope it changes how people view people with disabilities, as they have feelings and need to be loved like everybody else. Great to read by the pool.*

*I heard great things about Sarah Crossan, she didn't disappoint! I want to read whatever she writes next.*

### **Bethan Scarr Age 14**

***Read in one sitting, holding my breath most of the way through. This certainly is the one book to read this summer. So beautifully written.***

*Having enjoyed 'The Weight of Water' and 'Apple and Rain' I was really looking forward to reading this book. The style of writing makes it so engaging and you are completely absorbed into the mind of the narrator.*

### **Eloise Mae Clarkson**

*This book is about conjoined twins who are going to a public school for the first time in their lives. **This book is funny and heart-warming.** The characters are great and unique. The plot was great and it had such an unexpected ending.*

***This book is unlike anything I have ever read before. I would give it five out of five stars.***

**La'Shaunna Williamson, Age 13**

***'One' is a breath-taking story told from the perspective of conjoined twins, how being different can mean people moving on, how even the strongest relationship can break and how love is never how it seems.***

*Our Creative Writing Club at Dormston School has shadowed the Carnegie Awards which meant we've read a series of amazing books and reviewed them. Amongst my favourites I read and reviewed "Apple and Rain" which was absolutely brilliant so I asked our librarian if she could name me anymore books written by the same author, and it just so happened that she had received a copy of Sarah Crossan's soon to be released title "ONE". This book was breath-taking because it delved so deeply into emotional circumstances, a story told from the perspective of two conjoined twins. It was incredibly moving as I had never realised the pain endured by someone classed as "special needs." It is carefully crafted so that it is a story about sister-hood and about how being different can mean people moving on and how even the strongest relationships can break and never be mended and how love is never how it seems.*

**Aimee Sweet**

*'Here*

*We Are.*

*And we are living.*

*Isn't that amazing?*

*How we manage to be at all.'*

*Crossman's great new book is called 'One', a story about two conjoined twins, Grace and Tippi. Grace is the quietest one of the twins, the one who doesn't say much and tries to do what's best for both of them. Tippi is more about defending their rights. But more importantly, both care about each other. When Grace's heart weakens and Tippi drains her energy trying to support her sister, they need urgent help. Should they stick together, or make a decision that will tear them apart?*

*I knew I would love this book as soon as I saw the cover and read the blurb. The idea of writing a story about conjoined twins is really unique and interesting to*

read: Sarah's story is an insight into what conjoined twins, and also twins, have to face every day. **I loved the characters of Grace and Tippi, and I found it fascinating how they could almost hear each other's thoughts and know when they're lying or telling the truth.** I also like how each chapter is in poem form. I would recommend this book to girls aged 12-15, but boys may like it too. I am giving this book four and a half stars because it didn't grip me as much as I hoped it would, so I can't give it the full five stars. I recommend you to read it on holiday because it's a great past time and not too challenging to read.

**Maddie, Age 13**

**Wonderful description and poetry to help to show emotion and create a tense feel.**

After reading two other books by Sarah Crossan I had high hopes for the book. Similarly to 'The weight of Water' this story was told in poetry so it didn't take me too long to read. This story is about Siamese twins and how starting to learn at school instead of at home affects the way they live. Through their life they have been bullied, stared at and pushed around just because of the fact they are joined together. I really liked the way the book told me about the way Grace felt even indirectly so that helped me to begin to understand how it would feel to be a Siamese twin from the troubled background they came from. As well as having wonderful description the book also used the poetry to help to show emotion too. When it was at a tense moment the words might miss a few lines so I could see Grace's thought process clearly and easily. However, because the whole book was poetic I felt that the story itself was rushed, as each chapter was short, and I was really only getting into it three quarters of the way through so if it was longer I might have understood the back story a little more. But, in conclusion, I thought the ideas were great and the emotive language really helped me to get to know the characters, especially Grace and Tippi themselves (the Siamese twins.)

**Adam Goodman, age 12**

**An exciting, fast moving and touching book that I found hard to put down!**

One is about conjoined twins. Grace is the shy one whereas Tippi is the talkative one. The story is told from Grace's perspective. All their life they have been home-schooled. Now, at the age of 16, their parents have made a choice for them

*to go to school normally like any other young boy or girl. Of course they find it hard to socialize and everyone staring at them is quite overwhelming. But they do make friends with two people - Yasmeen and Jon. Like the twins, they are also quite lonely. From then on they all become great friends. Grace loves Jon and soon he loves her back. Every day, the four of them sneak into an abandoned church to hang out, smoke and drink. All is good until one day, Grace starts to have slight problems with her heart...*

*One is an exciting, fast moving and emotional book. It was full of cliff-hangers; I was unable to put it down! I really enjoyed reading it from the start to finish and I would highly recommend it. My absolute favourite part, which I also found very sad, was at the end. I won't spoil it for you, however, so read the book to find out what happens...*

**Jodi Coffman, age 13**

***One is an extremely powerful and amazing book. It was such a page-turner that I read it all in one night.***

*Tippi and Grace are conjoined twins and this book follows a prime time in their life. They are starting school for the first time having been home-schooled for all the past years. The book also explores how they deal with their first crushes and kisses. But, when everything seems happy, nature gets in the way and the girls are given a huge decision. This book is written in verse format with each page written slightly differently. This made it extremely interesting to read. I recommend this book to younger teenagers who are looking to read something abstract and powerful.*