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Freak Of The Week



Synopsis

What did Mrs. Rooks mean? That his leg wasn't his problem? What did she know? She wasn't lopsided with one leg shorter than the other. She wasn't a freak. Clay Ashby has a little problem. He limps. That makes him feel like a lopsided giraffe especially after Nikki Hendricks, the most popular girl in sixth grade, starts making up rhymes about his limp that has the other kids laughing at him. But then he meets up with an old man trying the impossible in spite of disabilities ten times worse than Clay's. When Clay joins a baseball team, Old Dan helps Clay believe in his abilities and shows him heart matters more than looks. But Nikki, on the team that always wins, is still ready with her rhymes. Will a ballgame for the championship settle it all?

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Customer Reviews

Received this book yesterday for my 12 years old grandson. Well, I sat down and read the entire book! It was a wonderful read, easy to read and I wasn't ready for it to come to an end. I love all of

Ann Gabhart's books. She is a very talented writer. Freak of the Week would be a great read for middle school age students and for adults as well! Try it!

Although the book is written for a much younger age group than my generation, I still enjoyed the story and feel that the book has some valuable lessons for youngsters. If you have reached my age and have failed to learn them, you really need this book. The main character was born with one leg slightly shorter than the other and walks with a limp. He is extremely self-conscious of it and allows that to affect him in negative ways. The fact one of the girls in his class who is popular and seems to have everything has chosen him as a target for her constant rhymes making fun of him makes the situation worse. She thinks she is being funny because the other kids laugh with her as long as they are not her target. He needs to learn that what he has in his head and heart are more important than his physical capabilities. She needs to learn that making fun of the disabilities and shortcomings of others is not kind. I recommend the book for preteens and young teens as well as their parents. The book includes discussion questions that will serve as a great teaching aid for parents of this age group. As I think about it, grandparents can use this book to help their grandchildren.

This is a great book for middle school age on up! Gabhart has done a fabulous job of getting inside the minds of middle schoolers. I could really relate, even though I'm "old" because I can remember what it was like to be in middle school and not fit in. It's a fun read, and I think could help kids learn how to cope with ways they're different from their friends.

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