



TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

Fade To Us By Julia Day Reviewed by Joselynn Laboy

Name: Joselynn Laboy

Grade: 8

Book Title: Fade To Us

Author: Julia Day

Number of Pages: 309

Rating (on a scale of 1-5): 5/5

Character List:

- **Brooke:** Brooke is a 17-year-old girl who has longed for family love, but feels uncertain if she will be able to provide for her new stepsister when she moves in. She cares dearly for her sister, and helps her in many ways.
- **Jeff:** Jeff is Brooke's stepfather and Natalie's dad. He is taking care of Natalie because her mother is ill.
- **Natalie:** Natalie is Brooke's stepsister. Natalie has Asperger's Syndrome which is a form of Autism. Natalie prefers that everything happen a certain way, and when it doesn't, she becomes anxious and she has a meltdown.
- **Micah:** Micah is the boy Brooke likes. He is also the production's stage manager and Natalie's mentor. Natalie and Micah share the fact that they're biracial.

Review:

During the summer, Brooke takes a job as a babysitter for twins, and gets enough money to buy a car and have fun with her friends. Then, her new stepfather announces that his daughter Natalie is moving in because her mother became ill, and Natalie needs a place to stay. Brooke has always wanted a sibling. She is very excited about spending time with her stepsister. However, Brooke has to put her plans for the summer aside to take care of Natalie. Brooke is very worried about Natalie, and is worried that she is not going to be a good enough sister for her.

Natalie joins a music program, and Brooke stops babysitting the twins to be part of the backstage crew. Brooke joins so she can watch over Natalie. But Brooke soon finds out that she really likes being part of the show. Brooke especially likes working on the show so she can spend more time with a boy named Micah. The only problem is that Natalie likes him.

Fade To Us would correlate to teens today because of the focus on autism. The point is that autistic kids are people too and we need to be aware and not avoid it or disrespect it. In the book, Natalie is treated differently and people are mean to her. Kids with autism are sometimes treated poorly too, and other kids can be mean to them. This book would

be appealing to teens because it really touches your heart and it just makes you want to stand up for kids with autism. It opens your eyes to the world of all people.