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## TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

### *Short* By Holly Goldberg Sloan Reviewed by Vanessa Aurigue

**Name:** Vanessa Aurigue

**Grade:** 8

**Book Title:** Short

**Author:** Holly Goldberg Sloan

**Number of Pages:** 296

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

#### **Character List:**

- **Julia Marks** - Julia is a short girl who hates saying the word 'short' out loud due to what she overheard her parents saying about her in the third grade. During the summer, she is forced to audition for the *The Wizard of Oz* and ends up becoming one of the Munchkins for the play.
- **Ramon** - Ramon is Julia's dog that was white and black spotted that passed away from a heart attack while sitting on Julia's father's leather chair.
- **Olive** - Olive is a short woman who has dark brown hair and is a performer for the play of *The Wizard Of Oz*. She helps guide Julia throughout the rehearsals.
- **Mrs. Chang** - Julia's neighbor, Mrs. Chang, is an old, artistic and creative woman who also happens to be short. She ends up making costumes for Julia for *The Wizard Of Oz* out of excitement for the performance.
- **Shawn Barr** - Shawn Barr is the director of many shows on Broadway and his work moves to the West End. For the play, he is the director and during one rehearsal he falls off a ladder and breaks his tailbone.

#### **Review:**

Meet a short girl named Julia Marks. Except don't call her short. She hates that word! Julia's summer has just begun and it's terrible so far. She has been sad ever since the day of the loss of Ramon, her dog. Additionally, her mother is forcing her to audition for the play, *The Wizard of Oz*, when she absolutely has no talent in singing or dancing. Along with her little brother, Randy, Julia auditions for a role for a play. When the results come in, Julia and her brother find they've both landed roles in the play... as Munchkins. During the rehearsals, Julia gets to meet amazing people who will change the way she thinks forever. And they are just tiny... just like her. As the play goes on, she bonds with Olive and Mrs. Chang, and soon learns that her director has big plans for her! Can these people teach her the importance of being yourself, no matter what size you are? Will Julia enjoy her summer? What will happen during the rehearsals and the performance of *The Wizard of Oz*?

*Short*, by Holly Goldberg Sloan, is a hilarious and realistic story, filled with interesting, quirky, different and funny characters who you will love. The characters and experiences throughout the book prove that size doesn't matter. This book inspires those of all sizes, especially the small munchkins of the world, to be who they are and to be proud of themselves. Author Holly Goldberg conveys an important message that people do not only grow physically but also

mentally. Join the laughter-filled and amusing journey of self-discovery, true happiness, friendships, and flying monkeys in *Short*, by Holly Goldberg Sloan.