



TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

The Lost And Found By Katrina Leno Reviewed by Amanda Rakotoarivony

Name: Amanda Rakotoarivony

Grade: 8

Book Title: The Lost & Found

Author: Katrina Leno

Number of Pages: 335

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

Character List:

- Frannie - Frannie is a teenage girl who lives with her grandparents and hasn't seen her mom or dad in a long time. She recently found out about her mother's death, which her grandparent's had been hiding from her. Frannie has had a best friend online since she was little through a support group for trauma survivors, and they understand each other more than other people.
- Louis - Louis is also a teenager who has an interesting story. He lives with his sister, and parents who owns their own family business. However, his sister has prosthetic legs because when they were little, she fell out the window and hit the ground hard so she had to get them removed. Louis feels like it's his fault everyday, but his sister doesn't think so. He also has a full scholarship offer to an academy.
- Willa - Louis' sister who got her legs removed when she was younger and got prosthetic replacements.
- Arrow - Arrow is Frannie's cousin who lives right next door to her. Arrow also understands Frannie and they're best friends.

Review:

In Maryland, Frannie lives with her grandparents. One day, she goes to get the mail which she never does, because her grandparents lied to her and said there was a black widow spider in their mailbox. She reads the mail, which is the bill for her mother's coffin. This confuses her, because all this time she thought that her mother was living in Florida. When she confronts her grandparents, they reveal the truth that her mother has killed herself about a week ago. They also reveal that they have been hiding the letters her mother has been writing to her. In one letter, her mother talks about another man who may or may not be her actual dad - the famous actor Daniel Green. Frannie is shocked, and doesn't quite know how to react, so she brings the letter to her next door neighbor and cousin, Arrow. Arrow's mom has been hiding this secret from her too. Frannie doesn't talk to her dad, who has been in jail. So she only has her grandparents, Arrow, and her online friend Louis. To top it all off, things keep disappearing from her. She has an item one day, and the next day it's just gone. She sets out to Texas with Arrow in search of her other father.

Louis lives in California with his sister Willa and their parents. When they were young kids, Willa and Louis were sitting at the edge of their open window because it was a hot summer night. Willa was playing with her toy when she leaned way too far out and fell. She survived, but she had to get her legs removed and replaced with prosthetic legs.

Louis gets a letter in the mail that offers him a full scholarship to a Tennis Academy in Texas, with the offer of a tour any time. For now, he keeps it to himself and doesn't tell his parents or his sister, not sure if he wants to accept it yet. He and his sister work at their parents' clothing store until he gets a text from Frannie that she's going to Texas to find her supposed father. Excited, he wonders if he should go to Texas as well. After all it's the perfect timing, he could finally meet this girl he has been talking to all this time and he can tour the academy. He lies to his parents saying he's going to a concert and ends up on a road trip to Texas with his sister to find his online friend and the academy. By the way, it turns out that he loses things, too. Coincidence? I think not.

I totally love this book, the way the author switches back and forth on the perspectives, helps me understand both of their lives. It makes you want to keep reading because you already soaked in so much of the information that you kind of know what's going to happen but at the same time you're not sure if it's going to happen and it's intense. At last, there's an emotional ending to the story where everything just makes sense and fits in. It's a beautiful book about friendship, tough times, family issues and taking chances so I definitely recommend this book to other teens.