

[PDF] Noonie's Masterpiece In Purple: A Play

Lisa Railsback - pdf download free book

Books Details:

Title: Noonie's Masterpiece in Purpl
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Description:

From School Library Journal Grade 4-6 Noonie Norton, 10, considers herself a brilliant but undiscovered artist. Since the death of her artist mother, she lives with her aunt, uncle, and younger cousin, while her archaeologist father travels extensively. The girl is eccentric, donning odd clothes, daydreaming, drawing in class, and spontaneously using her peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich to make pictures on the school floor. She goes through blue and purple periods during which everything she wears or paints is in that color. Schoolmates stay away, except for Reno, a clumsy math nerd who idolizes her. Noonie misses her father greatly and writes him letters describing her Blue Flu, Moldy Blue Fever, or Biting Blue Rabies so he will come home, and he corresponds regularly, often sending her gifts he finds on his travels. Railsback's story, originally written as a play, maintains the prominent theme of art serving as therapy. Noonie's beloved *Masterpieces of Art* provides hours of comfort as she imagines her affinity with Frida Kahlo, Andy Warhol, Vincent Van Gogh, and others. Frieden's ink-and-watercolor illustrations float through the book like the dreamy

thoughts of an aspiring young artist. Although a few characters are one-dimensional, Noonie's first-person chat with readers allows myriad emotions, and growth, to shine through. Interesting enough for reluctant readers, this title can be used in a unit on artists, but it also paints a lovely, quirky portrait as a stand-alone. *D. Maria LaRocco, Cuyahoga Public Library, Strongsville, OH*
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From Fourth-grader Noonie Norton, a self-described “brilliant artist,” is just moving from her blue period (which began after her mother’s death, four years ago) to her purple period. While her archaeologist father travels the world, she lives with Aunt Sylvia, Uncle Ralph, and cousin Junior. Navigating her fourth-grade year with help from her loyal friend Reno and her art teacher, Noonie struggles to deal with math, her imperfect family, and her too-perfect classmate Sue Ann. The school art contest becomes a catalyst for change, shifting Noonie’s views on the people in her life and moving her art into a happier, polka-dot period. Noonie may be an unreliable and even unlikable narrator at times, but her pain and vulnerability are as evident as her belief in herself as an artist, and by the end of the story, she’ll have readers in her corner. The ink-and-watercolor illustrations, appearing throughout the book, have a 1960s-retro look. Originally written and performed as a play, this is Railsback’s first novel. Grades 3-5. --Carolyn Phelan --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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