HOPE AND OTHER PUNCH LINES

by Julie Buxbaum

Published in 2019

Rating (0 stars is the absolute worst, 10 stars is the BEST BOOK EVER)



Abbi Hope Goldstein is a teenager who has been through something that not many other people can say they have. On her birthday, September 11th, Abbi was rescued as a baby from the falling twin towers. Mid-rescue a photo was taken of her with her little birthday crown and balloon. Due to her middle name "Hope," the picture has caused her to be known as the face of 9/11. Since then she has lived in the shadow of "Baby Hope". Noah Stern, a comedic boy who had his life similarly fall apart as a child on September 11th recognizes Abbi one day at a summer camp and thinks that meeting the "Baby Hope" is destiny. As the two become closer they both have to deal with the effects 9/11 continues to have on them. When secrets become unveiled they must overcome those obstacles, no matter how difficult.

I personally found this book very enjoyable. At times, it did get a little bit repetitive when it continued to bring up the same ideas several times and there were some points when I got a little bored with the story. However, I thought the view it gave on being a 9/11 survivor to be very impactful. I truly loved a lot of the characters in the book and enjoyed their differing yet compatible personalities. The story was fun to follow and the point of view of the 9/11 attacks was very educational. I wouldn't say the romance is the driving plot of the book but it is still very present. If you want a romantic yet impactful book to read I would recommend this one.

By Sierra I, 9th grade, enjoys reading mystery, fantasy, and romance