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10th Grade: A Novel

By Joe Weisberg



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Jeremiah Reskin has big plans for tenth grade—he wants to make some friends and he wants to take a girl’s shirt off. It’s not going too well at first, but when he meets a group of semibohemian outcasts, things start to change. Soon he’s negotiating his way through group back rubs and trying to find the courage to make a move on Renee Shopmaker, the hottest girl in school. At the behest of his composition teacher, Jeremy’s also chronicling everything in his own novel—a disastrously ungrammatical but unflinching look at sophomore year.

From the Hardcover edition.



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

For all those times you wished you knew what your high school crush was thinking, Joseph Weisberg's *10th Grade* provides a generous--and hilarious--peek inside one boy's journal of a year marked by unrequited lust and awkward social maneuvers. A sophomore at Hutch Falls High School in New Jersey, Jeremy Reskin trolls the halls and writes what he sees from his vantage point as a social nonentity. Not much of a student, not much of a jock, and definitely not much of a ladies' man, Jeremy reveals his talent for expressing himself through writing (even though his every thought reads like a giant run-on sentence, complete with dyslexic spelling and sporadic punctuation). Jeremy's sophomore story is so achingly familiar that it's nearly impossible to put this book down. Weisberg deftly captures a time that readers will feel nostalgic for--even while cringing--and he creates a very real cast of characters that any one of us could have known in class. The complicated, often traumatic limbo between childhood and adulthood rings so true from the beginning to the end of this debut novel that you will want everyone you still talk to from high school to read it. As for Jeremy, all we can hope is that things get easier by the time he graduates. --*Emily Russin*

From Publishers Weekly

Weisberg touches plenty of familiar bases in this pedestrian debut novel, a coming-of-age affair that tracks protagonist Jeremy Reskin's second year of high school in the vanilla New Jersey suburb of Hurst Falls. Jeremy is a bright, reasonably popular and athletic adolescent who plays soccer, gets decent grades and has an ordinary family life with two sisters, a penny-pinching but well-meaning lawyer father and housewife mom. The plot weaves around the arrival of a sexy new classmate, Renee Shopmaker, who quickly touches Jeremy's heart after she becomes his dialogue partner in Spanish class. But it takes the entire narrative for Jeremy even to consider the possibility of seriously dating Renee, something he muses about during their final conversation after each winds up with a different date at the prom. In between, Jeremy spends his time dealing with the semiromantic friendship of a serious, rather melodramatic girl named Gillian until their potential relationship peters out just before the prom. Weisberg captures the essence of adolescent stream-of-consciousness in Jeremy's narration, and he sensitively presents the usual array of coming-of-age scenes, including Jeremy's sexual initiation, a bonding trip to New York with his dad, his exploits with the soccer team and his first foray into the world of drugs and alcohol. But the absence of any romantic developments between Jeremy and Renee makes the ordinary scenes seem all the more bland; the result is a decent novel of character with little to distinguish it from the raft of genre fodder. Weisberg is a solid storyteller who knows his way around his characters, but he'll need some stronger plot lines to build on this debut novel. (Jan. 22) Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

This may be Weisberg's first novel, but he's got connections and maybe the right genes: brother Jacob (In Defense of Government) is also a Random author. Here, protagonist Jeremy navigates the ever-changing alliances of tenth grade.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mildred Bostwick:

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Effie Peoples:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them family or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity that's look different you can read the book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent all day long to reading a book. The book 10th Grade: A Novel it is quite good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book provides high quality.

Brandon Erickson:

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