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# Kaleidoscope Me



## Synopsis

“Sometimes, my mind is a kaleidoscope. Somewhere, buried beneath a hundred different swirling colors, is the original image, but as the dial turns, the original meshes with colors and becomes something completely different.” Jadyn’s world twirls out of control after her mother dies in a car accident and her forgetful Great-Aunt Nadine moves in. Her dad is never home and her best friend doesn’t even know half of it. Jadyn is trying to keep it all together for her little brother, Trenton. But when Aunt Nadine disappears with Trenton in the middle of a snowstorm, Jadyn may be the only one who can find them.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Once I started this book I couldn’t stop reading it until I got to the end. I love the fresh and creative way that the author describes things. I’ve never read anything like it. Some descriptions had me laughing with delight. Others had me almost in tears at their real-ness. Also, the metaphor of the kaleidoscope coupled with the way the story bounces back and forth from real-time to flashback is

also a brilliant tie-in to the main character's attention deficit. While I've read many reviews about people who think this approach is confusing, I applaud the author for taking a creative risk and trying something I've never seen before. And it was worth it. The story line was not confusing even though it did bounce back and forth. It was actually very easy to read and follow the story line. I thought this approach to the timeline of the story was brilliant and fresh. More! More! More! We want more from this author!

The main story of *Kaleidoscope Me* takes place over an hour and 33 minutes, but in a burst of narratorial brilliance, Jadyn takes us on a journey through her entire life, flashing back to different points in time, creating a nonlinear narrative. She doesn't shy away from the emotional events either, and I loved her growth and determination throughout the book. Jadyn is a character that readers can love as well as learn from. Meanwhile, Great-Aunt Nadine is a fantastic foil to Jadyn, and possesses her own strange kind of charm. Her chemistry with Jadyn (or lack thereof!) takes up much of the book, and I relished every moment of it. Strangely, the character I sympathized most with was Jadyn's father, and I appreciated what felt like his constant presence throughout the novel, creating a feeling of realism. Grigonis does a great job of keeping the plot moving and story exciting while developing the characters fully. *Kaleidoscope Me* is a well-written read that simultaneously explores the courageous theme of growing up and offers inspiration in the form of Jadyn. I highly recommend it to readers looking for a heartwarming and charming book!

Student Reviewer: alphatauri  
Age at time of review - 14

I loved this book so much, I read it in one sitting! In ways, Jadyn was mesmerizing as a main character—very real, down to earth and totally relatable! The writing style kept me interested as the author shares bits and pieces of the past and the present. I became quite attached to this family fairly quick, going through the emotional journey with the characters. I highly recommend this debut novel and cannot wait to see what the future holds for this awesome author!

*Kaleidoscope Me* is a well-written story with interesting characters. Ms. Grigonis masterfully handled a difficult story telling approach. Though the story is non-linear, the parts of each chapter are subtly interconnected and all build toward a cohesive whole. Very well done! A real page-turner.

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